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March 13, 2008 The University of Victoria's Independent Newspaper Vol. 60, No. 26 www.martlet.ca

Mold hits dorms

Sean Peterson

Some students living in UVic's Tower Residence building woke up to a disturbing sight earlier this year — mold.

"One night I turned over and it was all there," said Tower resident Will Roff.

Black mold that looked like old yogurt covered his floor and stretched the length of his bed, about two metres long. It also spotted his walls in places, and lined the baseboards. In the same week, another resident, Nathan Friedman, discovered a similar growth covering two feet of his wall.

Other instances of mold growth have been reported, all on the first floor of the residence building, which is less than five years old and houses 126 residents.

The Tower building has experienced mold before, according to Leigh Andersen, UVic's manager of facilities and housekeeping. He suspects the cause is a lack of proper ventilation that allows condensation to build up in the single-room dorms. He said the problem isn't serious.

"People react to the word 'mold' very strongly," he said. "You often hear on the news about serious mold problems, but this isn't one of them.... Some carpets got damp and students didn't really notice it."

He also noted that the mold was confined to surfaces. The problem becomes more serious if it grows inside the drywall, but this is not the case with Tower.

As a precaution, UVic's facilities management department will arrange for consultants to test air quality in the troubled building. Mold is known to cause a variety of health concerns, including allergic reactions, irritations caused by contact with the skin, and symptoms associated with colds and flu.

See *UVic searching for cause of dampness*, p. 2

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ANDREW SMITH PHOTO

Vancouver Whitecaps defender Omar Jarun slides along the Centennial Stadium field to steal the ball from UVic midfielder Kyle Langseth.

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Lack of funding rules out more beds

JOSH SZCZEPANOWSKI PHOTO

A 2006 report suggested more cluster or apartment-style housing is needed, but no action has been taken.

John McNeil

In 2006, the UVic senate received a report that said approximately 200 beds were needed to accommodate students who want to live in residences after their first year. It hasn't happened yet.

The campus housing review committee prepared a report in November 2006 for the UVic senate that outlined a need for new residences. The report noted an "immediate demand" for residence rooms.

"The problem lies in people who are in residence and wish to come back for a second or third year," said Gavin Quiney, UVic's director of housing, food and conference services.

Kristi Simpson, associate vice-president of financial planning and operations, said the senate was supportive of the need for additional student housing, but admitted there is little being done to address the demand. UVic's facilities management department has no current plans with respect to housing, though it continues to be a capital priority outlined in its strategic plan.

All first-year students are guaranteed a room in residence, but many returning students encounter housing shortages.

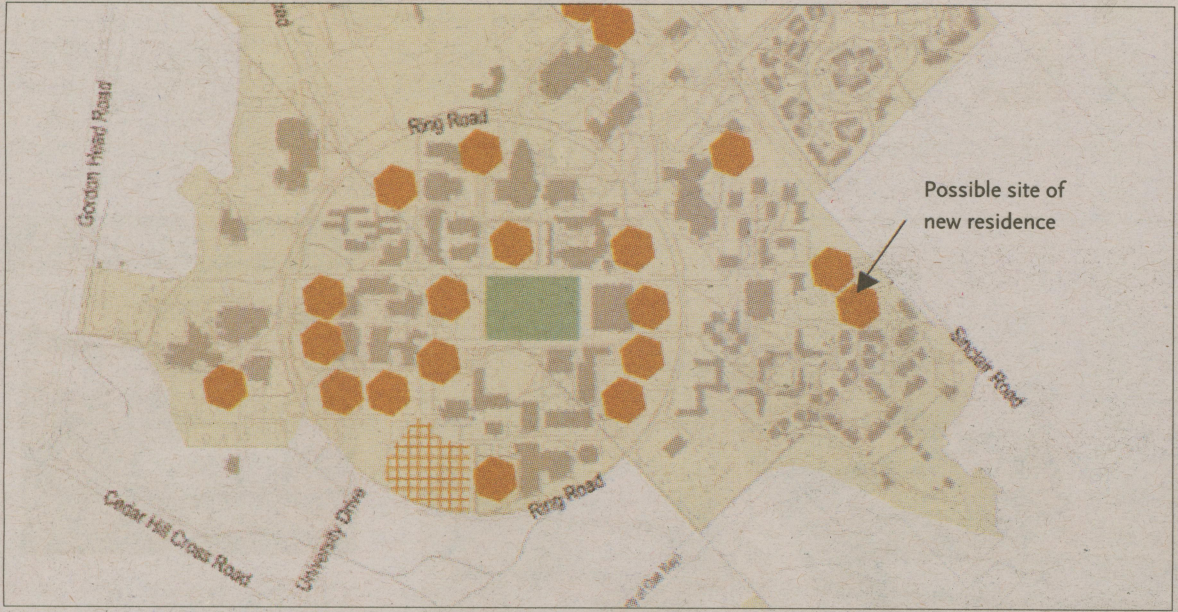
"There is the balance of how serious the demand is and can we afford it," said Quiney.

Roughly 2,000 students live in residence in their first year and of these students, roughly half will apply for on-campus accomodations the following year.

"Typically we have 400 to 500 beds available for these students," said Quiney. And while this may indicate 500 returning students are left out, Quiney said he speculates only 200 to 300 of these students actually had serious plans to remain on campus.

The recommendations the 2006 report presented correspond with the current demand. However, if the demand for cluster or apartment-style housing on campus drops in coming years, more construction may not be necessary.

See *University executive*, p. 2



SOURCE: UVIC CAMPUS HOUSING REVIEW

A report on UVic housing says Parking Lot 5 could be a site for a new residence building.

Continued from p.1

University executive says student housing is a priority

"In addition to identifying the need for additional beds, the report outlines three costing scenarios, all of which require additional financing beyond the current capacity of the housing operation," said Simpson.

"The amounts required range from $5.6 to $12.5 million. The main reason for this shortfall is significant expansion in 2004 as well as construction cost escalation."

UVic's housing, food and conference services operate on a cost-recovery basis, which means any new residence building would be expected to pay for itself through student rents. Simpson said expanding student housing is a priority, but in recent years operating funding has instead been put toward undergraduate financial aid, graduate scholarships and the library expansion. These university operating funds are limited, Simpson said.

"These funds as you know come mainly from tuition fees and government grants," she said.

JOSH SZCZEPANOWSKI PHOTO

Will Roff thinks the university should be more concerned about the mold he found in his residence room.

Continued from p. 1

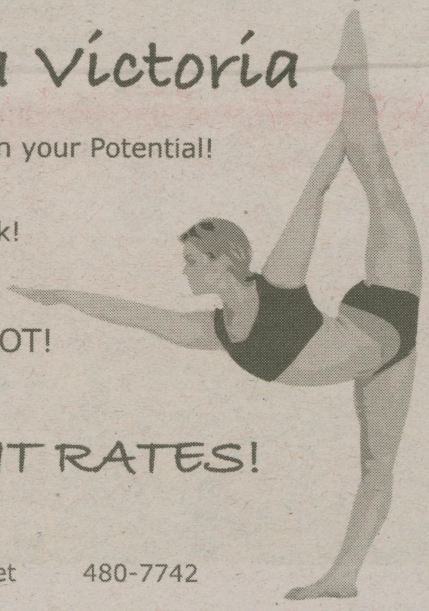
UVic searching for cause of dampness

"We want to make certain that if there is a problem, we're going to deal with it before it becomes any kind of a health hazard," said Gerry Robson, director of facilities management.

"I think [the mold] should be worried about," said Roff. He has noticed other students getting sick in Tower residence, and thinks the mold could be a contributing factor.

The problems reported by the residents have since been cleaned up by a contractor. Facilities management is now searching for the cause of dampness that led to the mold's growth.

It could be caused by flawed building design or by cooking, since the dorms are not designed to handle the added moisture, said Robson.



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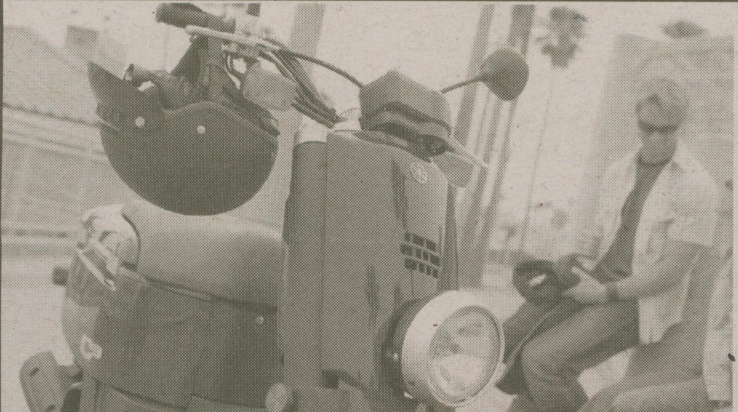

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IT'S **SAGM** TIME!

On Friday, March 21st at 2:30pm, the Martlet will be having it's Semi-Annual General Meeting in SUB B025. C'mon down and have fun bureaucratic times! If you have any motions you'd like to put forward, email board@martlet.ca.

Empty shelves prompt call for help

Food Bank's budget too small to keep dairy products in stock for hungry students this semester

Danielle Pope

JOSH SZCZEPANOWSKI PHOTO

Near-empty shelves are becoming a more common sight this semester at the UVSS Food Bank.

The shelves were bare on March 7 at the UVic Students' Society (UVSS) Food Bank in the basement of the SUB when one international student popped her head through the door.

"Do you have any milk?" she asked Sarah Brookes, the volunteer at the desk.

"No, sorry, no milk right now," Brookes answered.

"OK," the student said, her shoulders slumping. "I'll be back."

It wasn't the first time this month the food bank had to turn down a student, and with the rate of depleting supplies it won't be the last. Darcy Lindberg, the food bank's coordinator, said much of the current challenge of meeting demand stems from the unprecedented growth in students using the food bank.

"In previous years, the UVSS Food Bank's budget has been capable of meeting the demand," Lindberg said. "This year, for the first time, the need has outstripped our financial capabilities."

The food bank serves between 20 and 45 students per week, though any UVic student in need is eligible for services. Lately, however, students are learning to expect less and less.

Brookes, a first-year science student at UVic, has been volunteering at the food bank since September. She says that while the end of semester is typically less stocked, this is the worst she's seen it yet.

"Usually [in the] worst case, we at least have rice and pasta stacked on the shelves, and bread in the chest freezer," said Brookes.

"But this semester it's been really hit and miss. I've had people come in and say, 'I'm not going to take anything because there's nothing here I can use.' "

Single students are allowed one grocery bag of food per week and families can take two bags per week. While the same ratio goes for milk (the most sought-after commodity), it's been weeks now since the bank has had any stored. Because of the one-bag limit, if what students want isn't in stock, many users won't take any food in hopes their desired items might come in later in the week.

But UVSS director of academics Caitlin Meggs said essentials such as soups and canned vegetables are always well stocked. However, she said the dairy fridge is often empty because items such as milk, cheese and tofu are more costly.

"We'd be spending $1,000 per week if we continue at the rate we're going at," she said.

Lindberg said the international student demographic is the hardest hit by the recent food shortage. The number of international students has grown more this year than in the past and their tuition rates far exceed those of local students, often creating financial need. But Lindberg pointed out that everyone is affected.

"If you aren't a student lucky enough to be able to live at home while attending university, you probably have to work at the same time just to make ends meet," he said. "Anyone who has done it will agree that your marks suffer because of it. But it's becoming very difficult to just live off student loans, particularly in a city with the cost of living like Victoria."

The food bank receives 50 cents from every student, which works out to an annual budget of roughly $8,000 per year, said Meggs. But while the bank saw a surplus of food last semester, they're grappling just to make it through the end of the year on the current budget.

Meggs oversees the operation of the food bank. She sees the bank as a vital source for students, but stresses it's only a Band-Aid, not a solution.

"For students struggling financially this is an important resource, but we still need to do a lot of work so that all students can afford school without going hungry," she said.

Meggs suggested students who are able could help by donating to the cause or volunteering their time to hold fundraisers. She's also working on implementing a stricter set of record keeping to make sure food bank users are held accountable.

"Many people don't know that the food bank is funded by the students themselves," said Lindberg. "The money allocated to it is initiated through a referendum.... Thus, to increase funding, a referendum would need to be held."

Lindberg said that the UVSS board would need to make the decision to hold a referendum. Ideally, he sees the long-term solution as lowering tuition fees and increasing the grants available for students. Meanwhile, he's turning his attention to soliciting donations from members of the community.

"I will be organizing a food drive on campus, but students can assist as well," Lindberg said. "The Anime Club, for example, recently donated a great deal of canned food from a food drive they organized, and it was a great help."

If you want to help the food bank, contact Darcy Lindberg at foodbank@uvss.uvic.ca or stop by the bank office in SUB room B 017.

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Spring means flowers and tax returns

Fixed amount for textbooks, student loan interest, UPass can all be claimed to lower your bill

Feryal Ferdowsi

With the coming nightmare that is tax season, many students wonder about the actual benefits of their taxes.

While filing tax returns is optional if you don't owe the government any tax, there are lots of benefits to filing if you're a university student. Although you aren't charged tax if you made less than $7,800 in 2007, it pays to file a return.

One benefit is the roughly $75 GST credit most students who file their taxes receive every three months, said Fiona He, an employee at the Canada Revenue Agency. She stressed the importance of educating students about the advantages and long-term benefits of filing their income tax.

"By filing taxes while you are a student, what you essentially are doing is updating the government on your tuition amounts, which could in the future go toward a non-refundable tax credit," said He.

Margaret Klatt, a UVic business professor, said filing taxes creates credits that you can use once you're done school. By filing taxes as a student, you'll pay less in the long term, Klatt said, adding that filing taxes builds a credit history, which can help secure a loan or other types of credit later in life.

While students may be eligible for a number of tax credits, the most significant is the tuition credit, which applies to any spending of over $100 on courses. Tuition also includes a fixed amount for textbooks. Fiona He noted that in cases where parents have paid the student's tuition, the credit could be transferred to the parents, with a limit of $5,000 per year for the specific year of study. This tuition amount could also be transfered to a student's spouse.

Student loan interest can also be claimed in a tax return, while single parents could claim childcare expenses, children's fitness and public transit amounts.

JOSH SZCZEPANOWSKI

Maragrat Klatt, UVic business professor, said students often make the mistake of not keeping receipts after filing taxes.

> "By filing taxes while you are a student, what you are doing is updating the government on your tuition amounts."
>
> *– Fiona He, Canada Revenue Agency*

The UPass that all students at UVic must purchase qualifies for a transit pass tax credit, meaning you can claim a credit worth 15 per cent of what you paid for the UPass — that works out to $9.15 per semester.

Klatt said one of the common mistakes is that people often forget to keep the receipts after filing taxes. She noted that it is crucial for students to keep records and receipts, even if they are filing electronically, because the government may ask for verification when processing tax returns.

Another common mistake is that people forget to include their tuition and education amounts, said He, the two items that give them the most benefit.

In cases where students have not filed taxes in the previous years of schooling, those students can ask for a reassessment for all the years they have been in school. This would update their credit and they could use the credit on their future tax returns.

TAX TIPS

- Collect your tuition (T2202A) and employment (T4) tax receipts
- If you are over 19 and have a low income, you can receive a cheque from the government for approximately $75 every three months — if you file a tax return
- You don't need to calculate how much you spent on textbooks. The textbook credit is $65 per month of full-time study and $20 per month of part-time study
- Don't forget to claim your transit pass tax credit
- If you paid interest on a student loan, keep your receipt
- Remember to file before the April 30 deadline
- Many tax preparation companies offer discounts for students. Because UVic is a member of the Canadian Federation of Students, you can file your taxes for free using UFile.ca, and QuickTax is free to use online if your income is less than $20,000.
- Even if you don't pay tax this year, you can lower your tax in future years by filing a tax return if you paid tuition or donated to charity
- If you move more than 40 kilometers to take a summer job, you may be able to claim moving expenses against your employment income at the new location. Deductible expenses include travel, transportation, storage and the cost of meals and temporary accommodation for up to 15 days
- Recent changes have exempted all scholarships and bursary amounts from being taxed if the related program qualifies for the education amount.
- If you have questions, call Canada Revenue Agency at 1-800-959-8281 or visit their website at www.cra.gc.ca

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Recount likely after polling error

Sean Peterson

A member of Students for Students is requesting a recount of the election because of a fraudulent press release regarding ballot counting for the UVic Students' Society (UVSS) elections.

An e-mail sent from the UVSS director of services account on March 9 alleged that chief electoral officer Conrad Vanderkamp "ejected a ballot counter from tallying votes Friday night during the UVSS elections after discovering the ballot counter was intentionally falsifying the results.

"A member of the UVSS electoral committee first noticed the problem when he spotted the employee read director of academics candidate Edward Pullman's name off the ballot, when academics candidate Randy Neville had actually received the vote," the e-mail continues. It also rehashed the 2006 election controversy that saw chairperson candidate Mike Waters disqualified, and accused the UVSS of contravening its own electoral policy that year.

Vanderkamp would not say which Students for Students candidate made the recount request. It is up to the UVSS electoral committee whether to allow a recount or not.

"Because of all this fuss, it might be a good thing to do at least a recount of one or two close [races] so that we can be all satisfied," said Vanderkamp. He advised the committee to permit the recount in order to put any controversy to rest.

The e-mail was sent from the account of acting director of services Christine Comrie, who was elected to the position for next year as a member of Team Fast. Comrie insists she didn't send the e-mail, which reached multiple news agencies on Sunday night.

"Someone tapped into my e-mail account, and we're in the midst of finding out who that person is," said Comrie, adding that UVSS technical staff is working on catching the culprit by tracking their IP address.

The UVSS electoral office confirmed that one ballot counter was relieved of their duties. However, the electoral office denounced the e-mail's claims as inaccurate.

"The e-mail is completely fraudulent, and has no connection to us or to Conrad Vanderkamp at all," said deputy electoral officer Jessica Page. "We did have an issue with one ballot counter who was deemed just not up to the task for various reasons, so we replaced him with a spare ballot counter." The dismissed ballot counter may have had a disability that made him occasionally inaccurate, she said.

"He was being watched the whole time by the scrutineers and by [the electoral officers], and I feel we caught all his mistakes before we did decide to put somebody else in. We don't feel it influenced the election in any way."

Team Fast wins UVSS election by a landslide

Sean Peterson

JOSH SZCZEPANOWSKI PHOTO

Team Fast-ers (left to right) Christine Comrie, Ed Pullman, Caitlin Meggs and Tracy Ho were elected to the UVSS for a second year in a row.

The election results are in and Team Fast has blown the competition out of the water.

Election officials counted over 2,600 ballots and revealed the results on Friday, March 7. Caitlin Meggs of Team Fast won the UVic Students' Society (UVSS) chairperson position with 1,534 votes, almost double the 848 earned by Students for Students candidate Amber Dujay. Tracy Ho of Team Fast was elected director of finance over Kyle Granger, and Ed Pullman of Team Fast won director of academics over Randy Neville.

The director of services position was a nail-biter — entering the final poll, Christine Comrie of Team Fast led George Robinson of Students for Students by a mere 14 ballots. Comrie held on for the victory, winning by 45 ballots to complete Team Fast's sweep of the four executive positions.

"It's really exciting that so many of us won, and I'm really excited to keep working with the student's society," said Meggs, who currently serves as director of academics.

Voter turnout was higher than usual, with 15.6 per cent of all students casting a ballot. Last year's turnout was approximately 10 per cent.

The race for directors-at-large was tight, and the outcome is still unofficial. Co-op students still have until March 28 to return their ballots by mail, and those 33 uncounted ballots could sway the result.

Seven Team Fast members won director-at-large positions: Heather McKenzie, Veronica Harrison, Meaghan Kerr, Richard Park, Omand Geordon, Brodie Metcalf and Stafford Richter. Two independent candidates, Ahmed Mumeni and Dylan Hardie, also won seats. Students for Students candidates Teresa Sims and Erin Lacharty took the two remaining seats. The remaining five spots on the board are allocated to UVSS advocacy groups — the Women's Centre, UVic Pride, the Native Students Union, Students of Colour Collective and Access UVic.

However, Lacharty and Sims' positions are in jeopardy. They collected 662 and 644 votes respectively. At 640 votes, Students for Students candidate Sean Walsh could leapfrog one of the candidates if he receives enough co-op votes. So could Team Fast candidate Vishal Ahuja, who collected 635 votes.

It was an astonishing victory for Team Fast, who will hold 11 board positions entering the 2008 school year. Meggs said a strong platform likely led to the result.

"I think that students really resonated with what we're running on and the things that we're interested in, like sustainability, transit, inclusive campus events, and affordable education," said Meggs. She cited a strong stance on lobbying for students' interests and not being "just all about parties."

"And the hard work didn't hurt," she added. "We were also out there 12 hours a day talking to students."

"The team is ecstatic at the moment," said Richard Park of Team Fast, who was re-elected as director-at-large. "This [majority] will help us accomplish things much faster as there will be less bickering at the board," Park said.

Meggs campaigned on improving public transit. Going into the 2008 school year it will be first on the agenda, she said.

Team Fast has no plans to revisit a military ban on campus.

"The military debate was a really good debate, but it was a debate that was had," said Meggs. "Students showed how they felt about it."

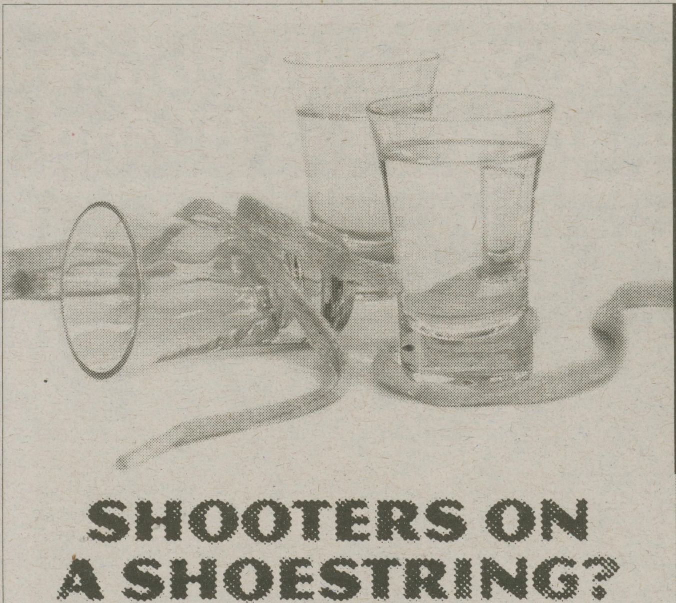
Despite the loss, Amber Dujay has few regrets.

"I'm happy with the way that my slate ran the campaign. We ran a very honest campaign, and I'm not ashamed of it," she said.

Dujay speculated Students for Students may have been set back by poor timing.

"There were certain events that were held on campus that were timed to [benefit] the other side ... at the election. I think they were great events, and they timed it very well," she said.

A referendum to increase the money allocated to course unions by $0.50 per student per semester also passed.



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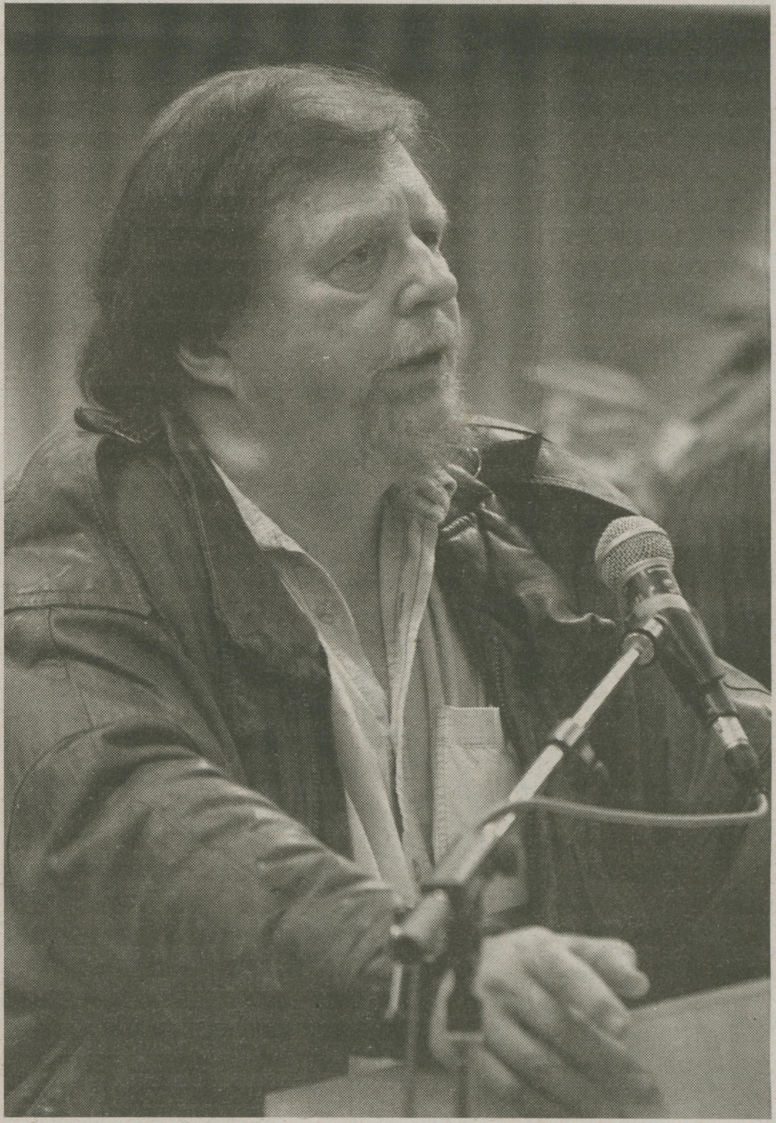
Iraq all about China: Gwynne Dyer

Canadian journalist dissects the war in Iraq and what to expect after the U.S. pulls out

Rosemary Westwood



AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

Canadian journalist Gwynne Dyer said the West shouldn't fear a rise in terrorist attacks after the U.S. leaves Iraq.

Looking casual in his leather bomber jacket and scraggly beard, Canadian journalist Gwynne Dyer stood before a packed Michèle Pujol room and announced, "It's over."

He wasn't referring to his lecture on the future of U.S. involvement in the Middle East — that has just begun. What is over, according to Dyer, is the war in Iraq.

For more than 20 years, the Canadian journalist has worked as a freelance writer, columnist, broadcaster and lecturer on international affairs. His March 5 lecture, After Iraq, took inspiration from his latest book *The Mess They Made: The Middle East After Iraq*.

"We are coming up to the point where the Americans are going to leave Iraq," Dyer pronounced. He cited the various likely time frames depending on which of the current three candidates in the 2008 U.S. presidential elections get into the White House — fastest with Barack Obama, slower with Hillary Clinton and slowest with John McCain.

"The American public has had it," said Dyer, and he predicted a pullout within three years.

He said an end to U.S. involvement in Afghanistan will follow, "and when they come back, we come back."

With that pronouncement out of the way, Dyer made recent debates in the House of Commons surrounding the extension of Canada's mission in Afghanistan seem trivial, and later confirmed he thinks such a debate is no longer pertinent. What is important, said Dyer, is what happens next — nothing much.

Dyer called the likelihood of increased terrorism in the West "unlikely." He received laughs from the crowds as he painted the scenario: the last of the U.S. soldiers leave the last Iraq airstrip, followed closely behind by hundreds of terrorists filling jet after jet that take off in hot pursuit of the Americans.

Terrorist attacks in the West have been committed by Arabs who are citizens of Western countries and unhappy with their government's involvement in the Middle East, said Dyer. Once that involvement ceases, he said, so will the threat of attacks.

Dyer spent part of the lecture dissecting what led to Sept. 11, giving his opinion on the goal of that attack. He called Islamic terrorists revolutionaries who are unsatisfied with governments that for the most part have sold out the United States. By and large, according to Dyer, countries in the Middle East are becoming poorer, while the governments are rich.

In a casual tone equally suited to your living room, he spoke candidly with humour and without notes, connecting political history of Saudi Arabia to Osama bin Laden and the Iraq War.

Bin Laden, he said, was aiming to trick the U.S. into repeating the mistakes made by the Russians when they invaded Afghanistan during the Cold War. According to Dyer, Bin Laden was trying to create a resistance, and therefore support and sympathy for his movement. But while Afghanistan originally failed to do that, Iraq, with its images of suffering Iraqis broadcast around the world, succeeded.

Dyer presented a Middle East where Islamists — his term to refer to Islamic terrorists — have never presented a viable political alternative for the average Arab. After the U.S. leaves Iraq, Dyer said he doesn't expect that to change

"I actually strongly suspect they will not succeed in coming to power in Arab countries," he said.

In an impressive free-flow of facts, historical information and analysis, Dyer discounted theories of weapons of mass destruction and the need to secure oil supplies for the United States as the cause for the war in Iraq, citing Iran as an example.

"[Iran] does refer to the U.S. as the great Satan and refers to the British as the little Satan and if they referred to Canada I'm sure they'd refer to us as the mini-Satan," he said. The point being, Iran still sells oil to all three countries.

Dyer then distilled the war in Iraq to one thing: China.

He called the U.S. "obsessed" with China's growth. Dyer said America's push to control oil in the Middle East isn't about U.S. oil consumption, but rather about restricting oil exports to China. He said it is growing at three times the pace of the U.S., and projected China would become parallel with the economic powerhouse in the mid-2030s.

"That doesn't bother me because there's no reason to believe they'll behave any worse than any great power," said Dyer, but he said that for Americans, being the superpower is an identity, and China's threat is a psychological one. He noted that the U.S. has been working hard to form alliances with countries bordering China.

"I don't have a dog in this fight," Dyer joked. "I'm a Canadian."

By the end of the lecture, the prolific Canadian journalist had weighed in on the recent elections in Pakistan ("The voters did themselves proud"), Sept. 11 conspiracy theories (he doesn't believe them) and the likelihood of a recession (possible, but there won't be a stock market crash).

No increased terrorism, no lost supply of oil. The worst that will happen is the U.S. will have to deal with a rival.

After Iraq, in Dyer's view, the picture is rather peachy.

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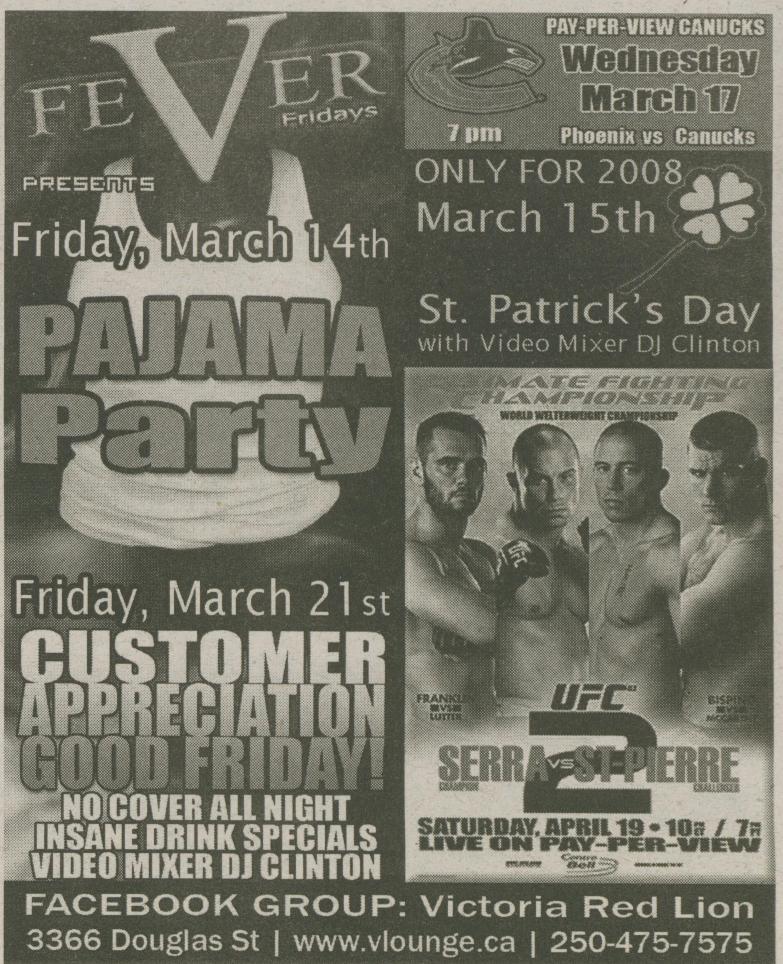

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NATIONAL NEWS

Dextre is one giant leap in technology

Canadian robot to help maintain International Space Station

Margaret Sheridan
INTERROBANG

LONDON, Ont. (CUP) — Canada's latest foray into space-based robotics is turning heads.

"The space industry as a whole in Canada is worth about $2 billion dollars per year," explained Daniel Lefebvre, an engineer with the Canadian Space Agency.

"Part of the reason for that is because the work we do in robotics is really the flagship component that we do and as a result it generally results in getting the other countries investing in us for other space projects."

Lefebvre is an engineers who has been working on Canada's latest contribution to the International Space Station, a robotic complement to the Canadarm 2 called Dextre.

"Dextre is the next generation of space robot," said Lefebvre, who worked on the project as an integration and testing engineer.

"Its main purpose in that case is for the maintenance of the space station. Whereas the Canadarm 2 is basically a crane that moves big pieces around the space station, Dextre is a dexterous robot who has two arms, and at the end of the two arms, hands that allows it to pick up and manipulate small objects, battery boxes and various other orbital replacement units."

The robot is unique in its design in the fact that its fingers are able to feel, in the human sense of the word.

"The hands have sensors that allow it to 'feel' where it's going," Lefebvre said. "Dextre has several cameras that also help keep an eye on what's going on from several perspectives. If you want one from the shoulders, it's there, and also right from the hands themselves."

In addition to the hands and camera, the robot has its own tool belt, which is fitted with a variety of specialty instruments that are commonly used to repair the space station and its individual components.

While Canadarm 2 was fundamental in the construction of the space station, he said, it was ill-suited to help with the day-to-day maintenance and repairs of some of the smaller instruments. But that doesn't mean that Canadarm 2 is obsolete. Dextre was designed to work in tandem with its older counterpart, which will be able to move the smaller robot around the station's exterior to the various locations that need to be repaired.

Like the Canadarm 2, Dextre was designed and built in Canada by a number of different companies across the country.

Lefebvre, who has been working on Dextre for seven of the 10 years the robot has been in construction, estimates that about $200 million has been spent on designing, testing and producing the robot over that time — roughly 15 per cent of the Canadian Space Agency's $300 million annual budget.

It may sound like a lot of money, but Lefebvre said the government was following through on a promise.

"The Canadian Space Agency was basically mandated to do this," Lefebvre explained. "It was part of an inter-government agreement between Canada, the U.S. and the other partners in the International Space Station, and this was our contribution to the space station. In exchange we get access to the facility as a whole for research purposes."

Dextre will be flown to the space station this month. Canadian astronaut Julie Payette is scheduled to visit the International Space Station in April 2009, a month before B.C. native Bob Thirsk will travel to the space station aboard a Russian Soyuz capsule.

"Julie, as far as I know, she's going up on a specific mission." Lefebvre said. "And Bob will be staying there as a part of Expedition 19, so as such he would get a chance to use [Dextre]."

This week in Martlet history

Stories from the Martlet archives

March 15, 1990 — UVic rented the David Lam auditorium to the Alliance for the Preservation of English in Canada, a group that had recently been accused of spreading hate literature about Francophones.
The Franco-Ontario Teachers Association claimed that APEC author Jock Andrews said "We need French Canada and French Canadians as much as we need the AIDS virus." The president of the Victoria chapter of APEC began the lecture by stating that bilingualism is "both divisive and discriminatory." Before the main speaker took the stage, a group of six agitators was taunted by the crowd with shouts of "Go home to Quebec!" and "Shut up!"

March 16, 1976 — A plastic bag containing a white powder was stolen from a heroin and drug display in the Chemistry Department during Open House. Chemistry professor Frank Robinson said that the thief would be disappointed to learn the bag contained lactose, a kind of sugar. "I think that anyone who knew anything about it would know that it would be worth a fortune if it was the real stuff," said Robinson. He said it was probably high schoolers. Right.

NEWS BRIEF

UVic club offers cheap metal water bottles

In a bid to get UVic students off plastic water bottles, the UVic Business Sustainability club was selling metal water bottles this week at cost.

The club, which formed last semester, wanted to bring attention to the amount of waste created by throw-away plastic water bottles, said club member and third-year business Fletcher Fitzgibbon.

"[They've] passed diapers as the number one thing that ends up in landfills," said Fitzgibbon, who said that the chemicals in plastic bottles were another reason the group was keen to reduced the number of students using them.

The club intended to collect all the plastic water bottles thrown out on campus March 11, and display them in garbage bins in front of the library. But the efforts of a surprising number of binners on campus meant that there were not many bottles to display, and high winds caused the group to cancel the event.

The group aims to sell 500 water bottles, with 50 cents from each sale going toward building a new water fountain on campus. The bottles were on sale in front of the library and in the SUB, and can be purchased by contacting fletchh@uvic.ca.

—Rosemary Westwood

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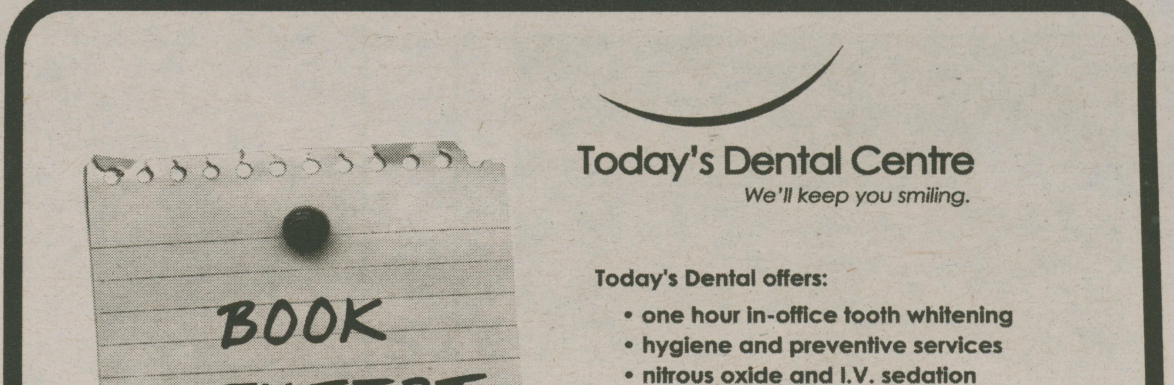
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Anglicans split over same-sex unions

UVic Anglican chaplain says each priest has room to choose

Nathan Lowther

A recent exodus of parishes has led some Anglicans to fear their church is heading toward a schism over the issue of blessing same-sex unions.

Over the past four months, 15 congregations across Canada have voted to withdraw from their local diocese and instead put themselves under the authority of a South American bishop. The dispute stems from whether it fits within the doctrine and tradition of the Anglican Church to bless gay couples.

In June 2007, during its tri-annual national meeting, the Anglican Church of Canada voted that the blessing of same-sex unions was not in violation of the creeds of the church. However, a second resolution to allow individual dioceses to decide whether to allow those blessings failed to pass.

"So it's sort of limbo," said Ernest Morrow, UVic's Anglican chaplain. "Because what was affirmed was that this isn't core doctrine, and yet there was a sense in which we are not going to go ahead and do anything about it."

The issue is blessing gay unions, not performing gay marriages. The Anglican definition of marriage remains a heterosexual concept and the blessing would not confer the legal status of marriage on the couple.

"What we are talking about is purely ceremonial," said Morrow.

Some Anglicans feel this ceremonial issue is representative of how the real issues are manifesting. "I do think there are some pretty important principles that are being questioned here that go beyond the issue of same-sex unions and the blessing of them," said Anglican UVic student Christopher Yeker. "So a lot of those cases seem to be where a bishop is trying to impose a certain doctrine or ideology, which several churches obviously feel is out of line with sort of core Anglican traditional doctrine."

Others feel the situation is serious, but not critical.

"I see it as kind of a turmoil, but not necessarily a division or a schism," said Kirsten Patterson, a third-year sociology student. "And I don't see it as becoming larger than the church's vision, our mission in the world, our call to be witnesses in the world. I don't see it as threatening that at all."

Morrow agrees with Yeker's view that same-sex unions are only one aspect of the overall dispute.

"The rhetoric used is that it is not about this particular issue, but how scripture is read, and how tradition is interpreted. So for them, this issue is sort of representative of a whole wider issue," he said.

Morrow added that regardless of whether the Anglican Church of Canada allowed dioceses to bless gay unions, no clergy would be expected to go against their conscience.

"Each priest has a certain sovereignty within their parish. A parish would never be forced to bless a same-sex union," he explained.

And Kirsten sees the debate as a potential opportunity for herself and her church.

"Increasingly in society we are not all the same, not all entirely homogeneous. So if we can learn ways to live with one another in love despite some difference, I think that's really healthy," she said. "A healthy model that the world needs to see."

But Yeker wants to ensure the church stays true to itself.

"There is a pretty strong feeling by a lot of people, including myself, that the church is coming to a crossroads of whether to stick to its guns or to let the dictates of popular culture determine church doctrine."

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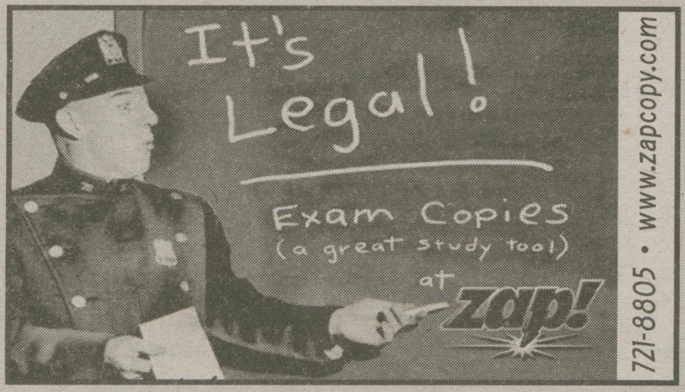

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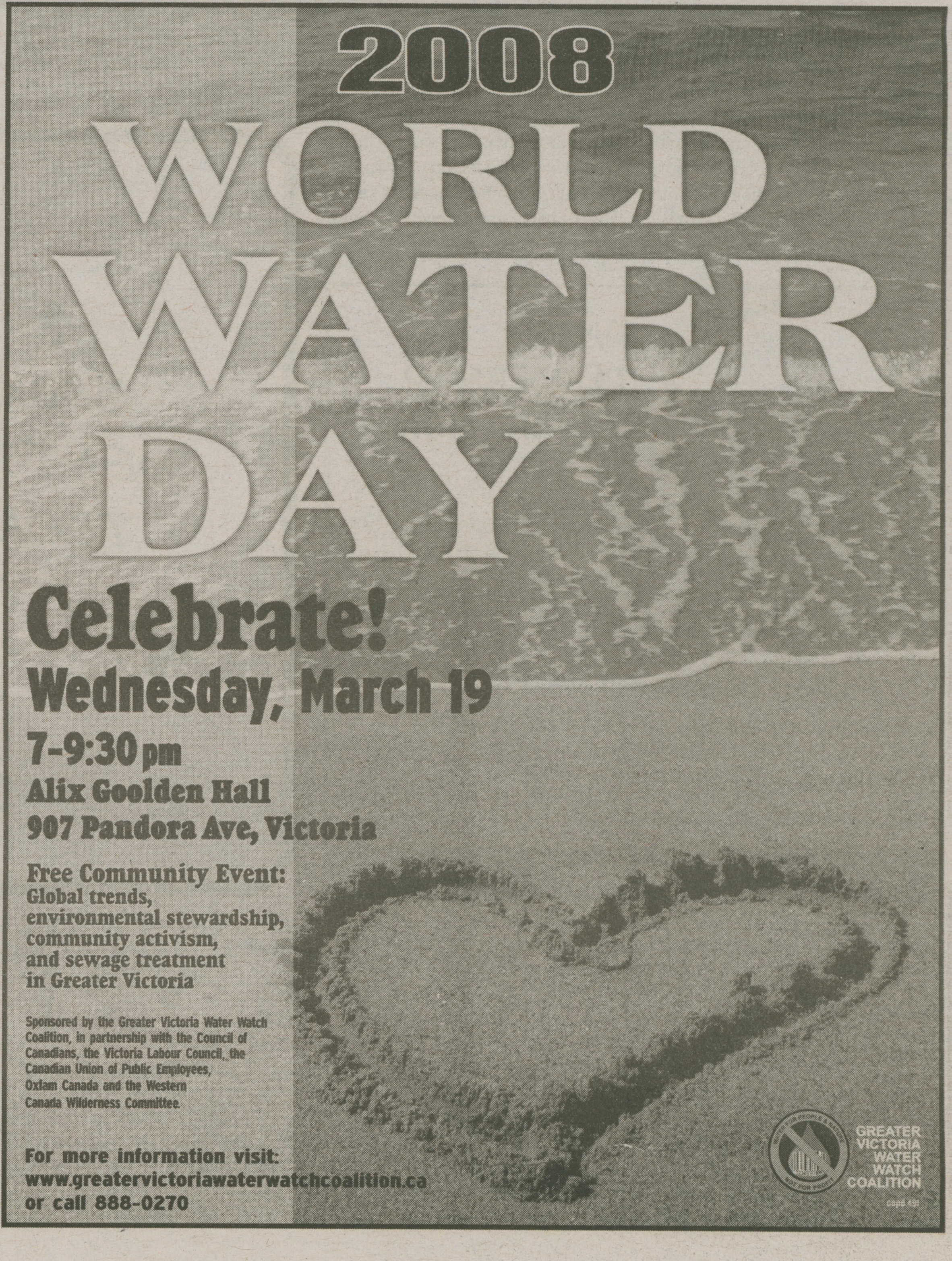

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Environmental psychology a growing field

Research shows that time spent in the wilderness connecting with nature can improve mental functions

Matthew Kemshaw

AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

Reconnecting with the natural world could improve your life.

How does the environment impact our cognition, our identity, and our mental health? Since the mid '80s, academics and psychologists have been trying to answer this question.

"Natural environments are inherently fascinating and do not demand our attention the way many things in our everyday lives do, so we can just sit [in nature], to use an old '60s term, and 'groove on the place,' " said UVic psychologist Robert Gifford.

Today, UVic researchers are developing fresh ideas in the emerging field of environmental psychology. Environmental psychologists explore why we don't connect with our constructed urban environments in the same way we do with the natural world. It asks why we have disabled our ability to connect with the natural world and become fully self-aware.

The experts point to many problems with creating a sense of connection.

"Advertisers have tried to direct people away from the natural world toward their products," explained Val Schaefer, director of UVic's restoration of natural systems program.

Nevin Harper, professor in UVic's School of Child and Youth Care, placed partial blame on our culture of fear scaring people away from natural spaces.

UVic graduate student Dave Segal, meanwhile, theorized that the social objectification of self has created us as objects separate from nature, whereas in reality we are nature.

"Being in the natural world, you're no longer looking at yourself in the mirror, you're no longer objectified."

But there are practical reasons to live in urban places.

"Feeling better in nature doesn't feed the family," said Gifford.

Groundbreaking studies started in the mid '80s by husband-and-wife team Stephen and Rachel Kaplan and researcher Roger Ulrich showed that time spent in contact with natural settings increases an individual's overall happiness, attention, confidence, cognitive functioning, and physical health, while decreasing stress, anxiety, frustration, and mental fatigue.

Since then, several professors at UVic have sought to understand why natural spaces improve or restore cognitive functioning. Much of their work has built upon Edward Wilson's theory of biophelia, which says that to become truly self-aware or self-actualized, one must understand that we are innately natural beings. According to biophelia, time spent in nature allows us to better appreciate how we are a part of natural systems that support us and all other life.

Venturing into the wilderness, or even into a city park, allows us to "sense the biological processes within us," explained Schaefer.

Segal is interested in how "wilderness therapy" can encourage this connection to nature and self.

"Wilderness often shakes an individual's identity system to the core," he said, adding that this creates an opportunity for people to reorganize their identity.

As leader of the Power to Be wilderness school, Segal has witnessed that after 10 or more days in the wilderness, individuals begin to fully sense the biological processes within themselves. Many experience a profoundly healthy change in their relation to themselves and the world. According to Segal, this awakening is the goal of wilderness therapy.

Some see the idea of being psychologically separated from our natural selves as a troubling reality.

"We are physically, at a very elemental level, from the earth," said Harper. "We are water. We are earth. We are air."

But our technologies, communities and economic and social systems often lack any sense of natural balance or connection, he said.

Whatever the reason behind this disconnection between people and nature, environmental psychology research is implying that nature plays an important role in improving our mental health.

"We shouldn't have to become one with nature," said Harper. "It should be the norm."

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EDITORIAL

Bill threatens to re-open abortion debate

When is the death of a pregnant woman a double homicide? Never, according to the Criminal Code of Canada. But a proposed law before the House of Commons could change that.

Bill C-484, the Unborn Victims of Crime Act, would make it a criminal offense to harm or kill an unborn child. Current legislation in Canada gives a fetus no legal status until it is out of the mother's body. If this bill passes, that would change.

The bill, proposed by Conservative MP Ken Epp, has abortion rights groups concerned that this could be the first step towards criminalizing abortion in Canada. But is this a valid concern?

Under the bill, it is not a defence to a charge to argue that the child is not a human being. Indeed, the bill depends upon recognizing a fetus as a human life.

But the wording of the bill also explicitly states that abortion is separate. Section 3(7) says that the bill does not apply to "conduct relating to the lawful termination of the pregnancy of the mother of the child to which the mother has consented," to an act that is necessary to preserve the life of the mother of the child or the life of the child or to "any act or omission by the mother of the child."

So by the letter of this proposed law, neither the legal definition of a fetus would change, nor would the mother's right to a legal abortion. The only change would be that a kick to the gut could now result in life in prison if it knowingly resulted in a miscarriage.

Opponents of the law see a potential slippery slope. If a fetus is something that can be murdered, then by definition it has to be considered a living being. Once a fetus is legally defined as a living being, how long until the legality of abortion is revisited?

That concerns Joyce Arthur of the Abortion Rights Coalition of Canada.

"If the fetuses are recognized in this bill, it could bleed into people's consciousness and make people change their minds about abortion," she told the National Post.

Arthur raises some important questions in her quote. Ultimately, the bill wants to have it both ways. Yes, killing or causing harm to a fetus via the mother shall cause you to be charged as if you are killing another human being. But no, abortions are perfectly legal. The woman who carries a fetus and then decides to kill it for reasons of "convenience" or "circumstance" will not be criminally charged for ending a life. The man who assaults her and causes the fetus to die, however, will.

The bill takes an irreconcilably inconsistent position.

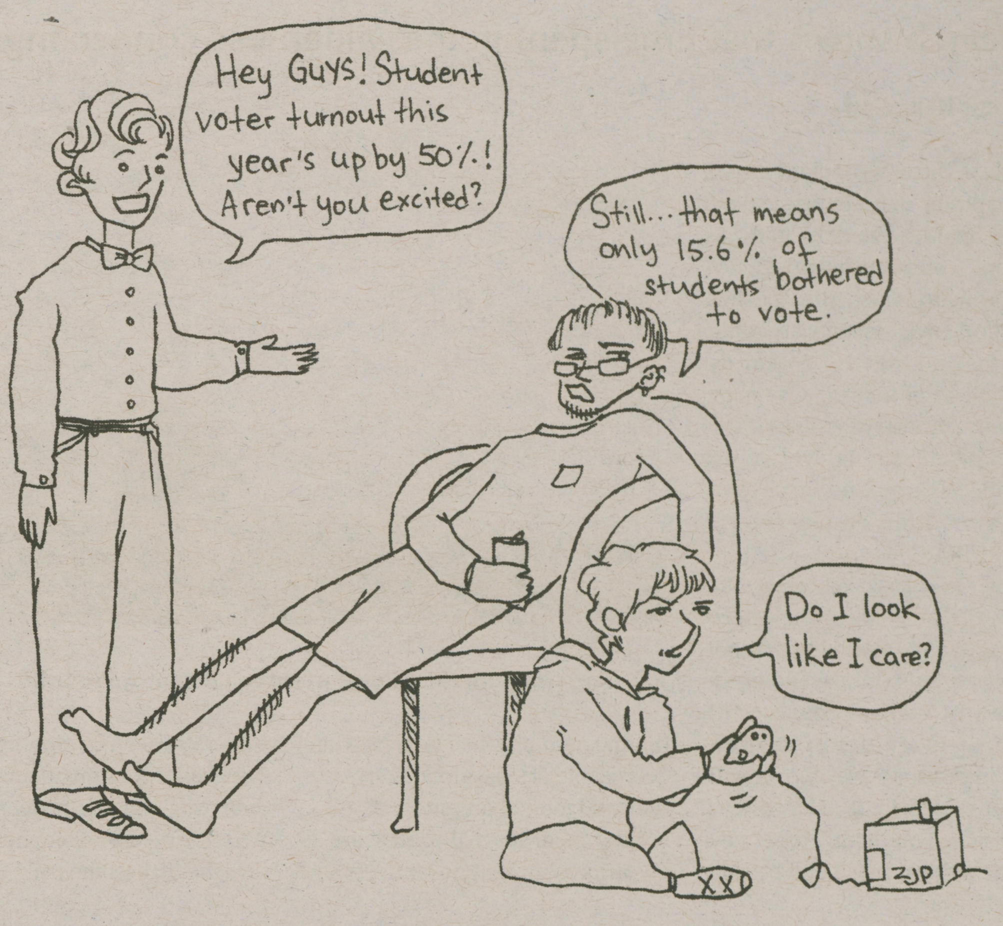
Health Canada found that pregnant women were "four times as likely as other abused women to report having experienced very serious violence" and 18 per cent "suffered a miscarriage or other internal injuries." Further, a report published in the Canadian Medical Association Journal states that the abdomen is "the most common area" struck. If the goal of C-484 is to reduce violence against women, then it is a noble and worthy goal.

However, society needs to be prepared for reconciling the double standard in the law. Even if this bill doesn't have any legal impact on abortions, it will have a moral impact. Laws are based on morals, and if we are to accept the morals behind Bill C-484 — that a fetus constitutes a human life — then surely we cannot accept that an abortion is morally acceptable.

It may not be a bad thing to re-open the abortion debate in the Criminal Code, but proponents of the bill should not deny the fact that the bill will do just that. Parliament should tread carefully — the future of a woman's "right to choose" might be on the line.

Editorial topics and stances are decided on by staff at our weekly editorial meeting at 2:30 p.m. every Friday in the Martlet office (SUB B011). Editorials are written by one or more staff members and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff members.

THERE'S MORE TO LIFE THAN POLITICS


Hey GUYS! Student voter turnout this year's up by 50%! Aren't you excited?
Still... that means only 15.6% of students bothered to vote.
Do I look like I care?
XX
ZJP

JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

Rethink youth engagement

Jerry Xie

JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

Existing institutions don't empower young people to play leading roles in civic affairs. But social expectations on youth is a poor excuse for their alienation, it perpetuates a vicious cycle.

This, among other factors, results in the disproportionately low civil participation of youth, and consequently a higher involvement with crime.

The cliché accolade of youth as "leaders of tomorrow" portrays youth through a biased lens. Youth not only have enormous potentials, but are also powerful agents of change today.

It's gratifying to see policymakers include youth representation at the decision-making level. But it seems as if youth are only expected to serve one another, and ignore most of the community.

Youth shouldn't try to protect others from the real-world spikes. Precisely the contrary: we can't afford to let others meddle around, or, in the youth nomenclature, screw things up. Hence, there is a rising appeal of tokenism in committees, community projects and government bodies, silencing youth from further inquiry and equal participatory power: "We have consulted youth. Youth are represented."

The youth political representation scheme weakens, rather than empowers, our youth. Having been invited to focus and working groups of regional and provincial governments, I'm familiar with this problem. The opinion I could freely express depended on the number of non-adults — one, as always. Youth tend to feel uncomfortable advocating in their own discourse, which often involves sincere expressions of emotions and allusions to first-hand experiences.

The vantage point exclusively enjoyed by youth is often overlooked. This is a result of the public perception of youth's "disadvantages": relative lack of formal education, and inexperience as practitioners. But youth can be an invaluable asset in facilitating social transformation.

The freshness of the youthful mind is self-explanatory. While apparently volatile, young people are also versatile, viewing all-too-familiar issues from "new" perspectives, giving suggestions with thoughtful considerations. After years confined by rules, priorities and proprieties, the adult has become immune to such mental energy, whereas young minds instinctively grasp topics in a meaningful manner, rearranging them in the form of innovation and spontaneous action.

We don't grow plants by stretching them, but rather by providing the necessary nutrients and environmental conditions. Likewise, it is critical not to assign specific tasks and roles to youth, and not to redefine their reality, but connect them with the right people and resources. The rest will follow. By connecting youth with resources, they become an integral social asset, and their capacity is maximized.

A Cherokee tale recounts a conversation between an elder and his grandson. The boy talks about an fight inside himself between two wolves, one evil and ugly and the other good and beautiful. He finally cries out "Oyee! Grandfather, which wolf will win?" The elder replies, "The one you feed."

The role of community leaders (political, cultural, educational, business, et cetera) is similar to that of the elder: to advise, encourage, enable, but not to patronize, paternalize, and shame. The "youthful energy" will always be there. To make change, we have to first make sense — to rectify our previous assumptions by examining the institutional order. The rest will follow.

Jerry Xie is a member of the City of Victoria Youth Council

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Annual subscriptions: $55 plus tax
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Stick to running the UVSS

Kailer Mullet

Shame on the UVSS. Shame on chairperson-elect Caitlin Meggs. And shame on anyone else who would carelessly sacrifice one sacred human right at the altar of another.

Youth Protecting Youth, a student anti-abortion group, placed some posters around the SUB depicting an infant and the heading "Is this the enemy?" Apparently, UVSS censors believe women are so credulous that they are incapable of maintaining moral fortitude when confronted with the image of a cute little baby.

My outrage does not concern abortion. I am decidedly in favour of a legal avenue for women to terminate pregnancies. I am not even all that concerned with the society's flagrant disregard for the right of free speech when the posters were removed.

What incenses me is a well-organized student political elite exploiting the vocal majority of a minuscule minority to bring the full political weight of the student body to bear on their own pet issues. They pursue their political goals by loudly claiming my implied consent and funding their initiatives with money that I was forced to surrender as a precondition of my enrollment at this university.

I (and many others) are forced, by virtue of being UVic students, to fund the de facto youth wing of the New Democratic Party, whose policies I loathe. The only way for me to avoid this extortion is to forfeit my right to tertiary education.

Our future supreme chairperson of the student politburo defends her actions, citing that at the 2005 annual general meeting, "more than 600 students (three per cent of students that year) came out ... to vote in favor of keeping [the pro-choice policy] in the policy manual."

I'm sure Meggs will remember that last fall, 500 students came out in support of the military. Are we therefore a pro-war campus?

Even this year, when Meggs won next year's chairperson seat in a landslide victory with an unusually high voter turnout, she was endorsed by a mere ten per cent of eligible voters. This does not give her a mandate to speak politically on behalf of the other 90 per cent of students, who either voted against her or didn't vote at all.

Contrary to what the chairperson-elect says, everything is not political.

In their role on the board of directors of the UVSS, representatives should confine their actions to the administration of the UVSS and leave political advocacy to the advocacy groups.

LETTERS

Paper thrown away

Having been a pollsitter for the UVSS elections, I've paid more attention to the process this year than I have in the past. The aspect that bothers me most is how much paper is wasted by candidates who hand out campaign flyers to every student who walks by. Many students throw these out without even a second glance. The UVSS claims to follow sustainable practices but I fail to see how the amount of wasted paper during the elections is helping our earth. I am both surprised and shocked that the UVSS is allowing this to continue.

- Kyra Hemmerling, UVic student

Scholarships haven't changed

I was appalled at the Federation of Post-Secondary Educators' (FPSE) full page advertisement in last week's issue congratulating "members of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS)...[for] winning a new national system of student grants." A little secret: nothing has really changed.

Currently the Canadian Millennium Scholarship Foundation (CMSF), which was replaced by the National Student Grants Program, commits over $350 million per year to post secondary institutions already, only five per cent of which goes towards scholarships. The remaining 95 per cent of that money already goes towards financial aid in the form of bursaries. Here at UVic alone, the Millennium Foundation has provided over $36,167,126 to 11,660 students.

CFS president Amanda Aziz even noted in an interview with Canwest that the new grant program is just "splitting the same amount of grant money among more students".

There is no reason for the FPSE to be congratulating anyone. Also, the image of students with "Reduce Tuition Fees" signs has no merit or significance to this program. No tuition fees were reduced during the inception of this grants program. All this new program does is provide more students with 40 per cent less money for school. Is that really something to be happy about?

- Shawn Slavin, UVic student

Get serious

Instead of Derek Madson's mediocre regurgitations of Christopher Hitchens' arguments against religion, why doesn't the Martlet simply excerpt a chapter from God Is Not Great every week (Violence at root of Qur'an, March 6)?

Obviously, Islam is as silly and dangerous as any other religion. But it's far too easy to bash the Qur'an and smear all Muslims as violent, misogynist fanatics. Instead of propagating hatred toward Muslims, Madson should move away from a selective interpretation of the theory of Islam and look at the practice.

The world's most barbarous, misogynist Islamic regimes — the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia — are those that enjoy the warmest relationships with the United States, thanks to their willingness to provide oil and military bases. Meanwhile, the vast majority of Muslims live in secular, democratic societies — India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia — and hold dear the same democratic principles as non-believers.

- Graham Biggs, UVic student

Less hate would be great

Derek Madson's article on the Qur'an (Violence at root of Qur'an, March 6) is not only offensive, but hypocritical. There are many verses in the Qur'an that promote peace, justice and acceptance. For example, "Take not life, which Allah hath made sacred, except by way of justice and law: thus does He command you, that ye may learn wisdom." (6:151)

Madson knows that any holy text can be skewed to support the political objectives of power hungry individuals or regimes. Has he forgotten about the Crusaders' blatant disuse of the Bible? Furthermore, the actions of the extremist members of a religion cannot adequately represent the beliefs of the majority. Madson is trying to fight against hate crimes committed by a few Muslims. Hate crimes must be stopped, but not by writing hate literature about all of Islam. This is hypocritical.

I am appalled that the Martlet would print such a hate-filled article attacking a different perspective on religion.

- Steve Katchur, UVic student

More than a "perusal" needed

Such hate mongering is inappropriate on our diverse campus, and the Martlet (Violence at the root of Qur'an, Mar. 6). Moreover, Mr. Madson should do a bit more research into the Criminal Code's background before using it as a prop to denigrate Islam. I think he would find that the Qur'an is by far not the only religious text to have violent imagery and metaphor...has he read the Bible recently?

The punishment for working on the Sabbath is death and Leviticus calls for the execution of homosexuals. There are Christian fundamentalists who use the Bible in much the same way that Islamic fundamentalists use the Qur'an. I'm not belittling the Bible, but pointing out the difficulty of drawing up laws which do not exclude centuries old religious texts. Madson should do more than a "casual perusal" before attacking the holy book of over a billion individuals. Religious texts are complex documents that require far more than your meagre knowledge and dismissive attitude.

- Fatima Quraishi,
UVic graduate student

UVSS insecure on abortion

The doubt and insecurity of the UVSS pro-choice policy on abortion (Anti-abortion posters 'manipulative,' March 6) reflect the glib rationalizations that trivialize the sanctity of life. Hopefully we will see the day when it isn't a law against abortion that stops people from seeking one, but a deep-seated repugnance, and a profound recognition of the barbarism of the practice. As Mother Teresa once said, "In abortion there are two killings: one is the baby, and the other is the conscience of the mother."

- Ricardo Di Cecca,
Burlington, Ont.

Bring back free speech

Let's be reasonable: all advertising is manipulative (Anti-abortion posters 'manipulative,' March 6). If we're going to remove pro-life posters on the grounds of being "manipulative and moralistic," we should also remove UVic posters that advertise with cute little bunnies (manipulative) and "fair trade coffee" signs (moralistic).

What's really at stake is the issue being advertised — the abortion controversy — and freedom of speech. Pulling down posters and banning clubs are great ways to silence debate. After the uproar over the military ban, I thought we'd resolved the fact that UVic students are in favour of free speech, no matter what side of the debate they're on.

- Monica Murphy, UVic student

Debates essential part of process

In Canada, deer, moose, bears and various wildlife are protected to a certain degree by laws. The unborn are not (Anti-abortion posters 'manipulative,' March 6). Babies do not have legal status in Canada until they proceed, alive, from the mother. Is this just? Can we say that an unborn baby, even at eight months, deserves less legal protection than moose or deer? Does it make it right to kill the unborn at any stage prenatally because it is legal? Does that make it moral? If this does not make us at least a bit uncomfortable then we haven't thought about it long enough. Serious debate needs to continue for a truly just society to prevail and for a university to be true to its name.

- Lawrence Floucault,
UVic student

Abortion law needed

The majority of Canadians disagree with the absence of any law whatsoever for the protection of the unborn (Anti-abortion posters 'manipulative,' March 6). At this point, abortion is legal in Canada throughout all nine months of pregnancy, with no restrictions.

However, a poll conducted by the Environics Research Group in 2007 showed that 62 per cent of Canadians think there should be some law governing abortion, at least at the point of fetal viability. This is not a closed issue in Canada — why should it be silenced on the university campus, for centuries the home of debate?

- Madeleine Gubbels, UVic Youth
Protecting Youth chair

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Tell us: letters@martlet.ca
The Martlet has an open letters policy and will endeavour to print every letter received from the university community. Letters must be submitted by e-mail, include your real name and affiliation to UVic, and have "Letter to the editor" in the subject line. Letters must be under 200 words and may be edited.

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MELODRAMATIC MUSINGS

When you gotta go....

Will Johnson

A girl named Jessica once held my face in her hands and said I'd lived many lifetimes before this one.

Apparently, she could see it in my eyes. I was clearly an old soul, and my destiny was to wander the Earth as a nomad. I wasn't sure whether or not I believed her, but it made me feel cool and mysterious anyway. That was four years ago.

When you're 18 years old, its easy to get caught up in the whole Jack Kerouac, fuck-the-world, I-need-to-go-discover-myself mentality. I imagined myself in a temple in Asia, a hut in Thailand, staring at the sunset on some beach in Africa. Suburban life wasn't going to cut it.

But plane tickets are pricey. After that realization comes the soul-sucking downward spiral of getting a job, buying a car to get there, paying rent — the list goes on. Somehow my nomadic dream of becoming an aimless bohemian wanderer slowly began to slip away.

I've watched tons of friends come and go. My ex saved her money for an entire year, carefully depositing a percentage of each paycheque into her travel bank account. The time came and she left for a six month trip to Thailand and New Zealand, only to have a panic attack and return a couple weeks later.

Then there's Danica, who just spent six months in India with her boyfriend. She's going back soon. Or my friend Trisha, who regularly gets restless and disappears to whatever exotic locale her heart desires. Over reading break, my friends Jessi and Maciel went to Italy and Montreal — I only made it to East Van.

My friends are living out my vision. This obsession with experiencing other countries, other languages, other people is everywhere.

My friend Lindsay did a year-long exchange to Britain, then came home with a tall, handsome, British boyfriend. He ended up being an asshole and now he's old news, but whenever he spoke I caught myself repeating the things he said under my breath, trying to mimic his accent. "Gob" means mouth, and a cell phone is a "mobile." Weird.

Long-distance relationships work a lot better these days. My friend Emily is dating this dude from Belgium, and she spends more time with him than the people that live in her city. They chat on Skype (a cheap Internet phone program), write e-mails and make videos to send back and forth. It seems to work nicely for her.

It's March now, and the weather's getting nicer, but I still find myself wishing I was somewhere warm. I want to wear flip flops and swim in the ocean. I want to have no idea what I'm going to do with my day. I want to weave through a strange city, asking for directions and stopping wherever I like. I want to take pictures and shake hands and ride buses and drink with strangers.

There's less than a month left in school. What are you going to do with your summer?

Addiction, binning, community and recovery

Recyclers doing more than just clearing bottles

Story by Isabel Ferreras
Photos by Goh Iromoto

The Ubyssey

Binning is a word you won't find in any dictionary. If you search for it on Google, you will only find a bed and breakfast, a pool, and an Argentine medical doctor.

That's because the more familiar term is dumpster diving, and a binner is someone who jumps into garbage bins and fishes out whatever bottles and cans he or she can find. This is so they can earn enough to eat and fund their habits — sometimes alcohol or illicit drugs. What you might be surprised to learn, however, is that many of these binners get into such a practice to get out of these addictions.

Getting back on your feet

Shawn is an employee at the United We Can bottle depot in Vancouver. He is 49 years old, and in the past has worked as a shop steward and tradesperson. He also completed a year of cooking school with straight As. So what is he doing working as a casual employee here?

"I've battled a serious drug addiction for many, many years," Shawn said. "I've been bangin' up the 12-step wall. It's been a long process, including harm reduction and counselling, but binning has been a large part of my recovery as well. It's made a big difference in my life."

The big difference working at the bottle depot was providing an alternative to a life of crime and drug abuse.

"When you get down to my level, you have three choices: deal, steal or recycle. Those who choose to recycle are mostly not dealing or stealing. Binning is tough work, though. You're working a lot harder [than the dealers or stealers], and getting much less reward for it.

"Now that I'm working at United We Can, my welfare status allows me to make $500 on top of my paycheque without taking any [tax] off. I still do some binning. I have some spots that give me [their empties], and some places that I just know. I climb in and can get $5 to $10 out of one place. I've got an opportunity to work here, and that could be an opportunity to do more drugs, but it could also be an opportunity for me to step up."

This job has clearly been similarly beneficial to many others. United We Can bottle depot is located at the corner of Main and West Hastings, in the centre of the Downtown Eastside. Nearby, one can see many of the sad realities of the area: open drug use, homelessness and hunger. Luckily, for those who are physically and mentally able to take them on, there are jobs available at the depot. And it's not hard to get hired.

"With the people that work here, we do not discriminate, even if they are addicts," said Ken Lyotier, executive director and manager of United We Can. "All we ask is that they be up front about it."

As someone who has been managing this extraordinarily successful charity since the very beginning, dealing with bureaucracy, addicts, and financial difficulties, he is not asking for much.

Together We Bin

United We Can began under Lyotier's vision that bottle depots were needed to meet the demands of binners in and around the city. Though it is hard to believe, not long ago, there were none of these recycling centres to be found in Greater Vancouver.

"We were a group of dumpster divers who organized ourselves to try and improve the system for taking back refundable beverage containers in the late '80s early '90s. We ended up developing this project, which has continued on in the last 13 years," said Lyotier.

"There were limits on how much you could take back to the liquor and grocery stores per day," he said, when asked what the motivation was for establishing the project. "Before [1998], only Coke, Pepsi, and beer bottles were taken. The big issue was that all the wine, spirits, and juice got thrown out."

By any estimate, United We Can has seen large success. At any given time of the day, lineups snake outside the entrance of the building. The system inside is one of order and efficiency, powered by professional, hardworking staff.

There are many tables which binners use to count out their bottles, by classification of size and brand. Once they have put their recyclables in order, they have only to place them in cardboard trays and wait in line. Cashiers working the till must be able to work quickly and efficiently, because the lineups for payout can easily reach 10 to 15 people at a time.

"It's hard to say, but there are about 650 to 750 people receiving money from the till each day," said Lyotier.

Considering that there is one operating till in the room, United We Can cashiers make up to 90 transactions per hour. It is indeed a very busy place.

Fending for yourself

United We Can has developed a number of projects to serve the community

Notable ones include a binners roadshow, a bike repair shop, a used computer store and a binner cart project, which provides functioning, clean carts bearing the United We Can logo. They do not make the noise grocery shopping carts do, and are lent out to whoever wants to use them. However, the most notable of all the services offered by this charity is the Crossroads and Lanes service.

"[This project] goes out and cleans the sidewalks around the main block area of the Downtown Eastside, and we have been doing that since before we even opened the bottle depot. Part of that project picks up the needles and whatever we find out there, and we try to maintain some cleanliness in the area," says Lyotier.

These cleaning efforts are clearly working the way they were intended to. One step out the back alley of United We Can, and all you can see is a truck passageway that is practically devoid of garbage.

There used to be dumpsters in the alley, but they disappeared from downtown alleyways on December 31. Their removal was orchestrated by the Downtown Vancouver Business Improvement Association, an organization which promotes "the unique assets of the area and highlighting events and happenings which will draw and retain customers downtown." So how does this tie into the removal of dumpsters in downtown alleyways?

According to the association, there is a "close, proven association between dumpster clusters and public disorder … more than 90 per cent of incidents the [association's] Downtown Ambassadors responded to were within 50 metres of dumpsters. Incidents involving panhandling, drug use, problem street person interactions and drug dealers took place entirely within the dumpster clusters."

Dave Jones, head consultant on safety and security for the Downtown Vancouver Business Association, said that the association has been working with, and not against, United We Can to establish an integrated system through which binners will be able to continue to collect their recyclables.

Cardboard will be bundled in twine and left out for free collection. Refundable items will be separated into clear plastic bags, left out for a binner to collect or for people on bottle drives. Used cooking grease will be put back into its original container, and picked up frequently. Paper will be separated out and recycled. General garbage will end up in semi-transparent bags, with planned pickup to happen multiple times a day. Businesses will arrange for pickup to happen at times that will ensure that no garbage is left out overnight.

Will this system work? Ken Lyotier thinks so.

"[United We Can] looked at this plan with the perspective on how it could better involve the people that are looking for work and money," he said. "We came to the conclusion that it was possible that it could work. We could create more work opportunities.

"There are people on our streets that don't have the capacity to participate in initiatives like this with United We Can. However, we have a group of people that have the potential to get there, and how are they to accomplish that task? How are we to invest in those groups? Everything depends on what resources we have, and what our society's priorities are. Maybe I'm an optimist, but I think it really is possible."'

The view from the street

Some are not as quick to embrace the elimination of dumpsters. Shawn is skeptical about the project.

"I call this the Olympic war on the poor. It is the driving force behind putting these bins away, because they don't want the binners around [during the Olympics]," he said.

Another factor to consider is whether having bottles and cans being left in clear plastic bags for anyone to grab will change the binning dynamic. While the idea is good in that binners will no longer have to sift through garbage with their bare hands, one must wonder if the distribution of recyclables will be nearly as equitable. What if binners simply end up loitering around the alleyways until business owners leave out their heaping bags of bottles? Will this create hostility among binners as to who can grab the bag (and the resulting profit) first?

Binners have had to deal with the humiliation of what they must do to generate income, the filth of the garbage they comb through, and now the ever-increasing barriers of access to their money-making recyclables. If locking down the lids of the majority of dumpsters weren't enough, now the very existence of dumpsters downtown is ceasing.

Before we go dumping on the livelihood of binners, we may want to think twice.

WHAT'S IN YOUR MOUTH?

Brighten meals with broccoli

KELSEY GOODWIN PHOTO

Broccoli will add vitamins C, K and A to your diet.

Jessica Salloum

If you're standing in front of the refrigerator with the door wide open, wondering what to make for dinner, reach into your crisper drawer for the broccoli.

Folate, fibre, potassium, protein and vitamins C, K and A — broccoli packs a nutrition punch.

Broccoli may also prevent several types of cancer, all while remaining delicious.

These little green trees retain more of their nutrients while raw or lightly steamed (3-4 minutes tops).

Broccoli is the perfect vegetable to toss into pasta, soup, rice or stir-fries. Try it in one of the following recipes, or enjoy it plain.

Happy eating!

Broccoli Salad

1 medium head of broccoli, florets separated
1/2 medium red onion, finely chopped
125 ml (1/2 cup) raisins
125 (1/2 cup) cashews or sunflower seeds
75 ml (1/3 cup) mayonnaise
15 ml (1 tbsp) honey or something similar
2 ml (1/2 tsp) chili pepper

Steam broccoli if desired. Toss broccoli with onion, raisins and nuts or seeds. Mix mayo, honey and pepper then toss the whole thing together. Serves two.

Peanut-Coconut Stirfry

250 ml (1 cup) coconut milk
10 ml (2 tsp) curry paste
15 ml (1 tbsp) light soy sauce
15 ml (1 tbsp) brown sugar or honey
1/2 lemon (15 ml), juiced
50 ml (1/4 cup) natural peanut butter
5 ml (1 tsp) sriracha hot sauce, or to taste
30 ml (2 tbsp) oil (unnecessary if using a nonstick pan)
225 grams (1/2 pound) extra-firm tofu, pressed and diced
1 medium head broccoli, florets separated and stalk chopped
1 bell pepper, julienned (i.e. cut into long, thin strips)

Combine all of the sauce ingredients in a saucepan and bring to a gentle boil until ingredients mix. Taste and add ingredients as needed.

In a large pan or wok, heat up the oil and add the tofu. Stir until golden on all sides, then toss in the other vegetables. When vegetables are cooked to your liking, add the sauce.

Serve over rice or put some soaked udon rice noodles in the pan just before adding the sauce. Serves two or three.

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Canada

Questlove casts eclectic DJ set

JIM HILL PHOTO

Questlove pumped up audiences on March 3 at Element Nightclub.

Jim Hill

DJ Questlove may be the hardest working man in hip hop — and for a Monday night on March 3, Element Nightclub was packed when Quest struck Victoria for the first time.

Questlove is well known for his role as drummer for hip hop band The Roots. But few people realize he also manages Okayplayer Records, with a roster that has grown to include such talent as Common, Talib Kweli, D'angelo and Mos Def.

Many crowd members voiced their surprise when Quest began spinning a set that included more than just hip hop. He played modern pop chart hits alongside obscure '70s funk and reggae. For those who paid attention to pop radio in their youth, many early 2000s rap and R&B songs were recognizable, laced in between funky break beats.

Questlove's style of turntabling veers from the average: he favours solid song selection and novel mash-ups over technical wizardry and record scratching. He threw a party for his audience, rather than a showcase of his virtuosity.

But his sombre attitude was surprising. Even musicians can get shy, but while Questlove is usually the spokesman for his band, he only spoke once or twice during the entire set — probably because he was worn out from an exhausting tour schedule. The Roots are known for their 365-day-a-year touring schedule, and it makes for a stellar live show. Quest has taken on even more work than his bandmates, assuming both the role of DJ and record label executive.

Quest's fatigue aside, the audience was lively. Bottles were shattered all over the expensive LED-lit dance floor in what seems to have become the trademark of Element, making it a dangerous place to land when pumping to such moving sets.

At the end of the show, Questlove thanked the dance-weary audience for enjoying his blend of songs.

"Hip hop is influenced by nearly every genre of music, and many people don't realize that," he finished by saying.

For a DJ so devoted to the art of merging his music, his hard-working reputation is well deserved.

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DRINKING WITH DEREK

All that is green and good for Patty

Derek Mandel

St. Patrick's Day is March 17, the one day a year when everyone is Irish. An honorary Irish person requires a careful selection of the finest in Irish liquor to properly celebrate the occasion, including Irish whiskey, Irish cream and Irish beer.

Just as Scotland has scotch and Canada has rye, Irish whiskey is Ireland's unique take on distilling grains.

What sets Irish whiskey apart from the others is an additional distillation, which produces a cleaner taste. The most readily available brand is Jameson's. Irish whiskey, like all other types, is meant to be enjoyed straight up.

The most famous brand of Irish cream is Bailey's. Irish cream consists of Irish whiskey, cream, chocolate, vanilla and sugar. The result is a smooth liqueur that can be included in a variety of cocktails, and is especially great for layering — though it is meant to be enjoyed as it comes.

Even though it isn't necessary, storing Irish cream in the fridge will enhance the flavour: cool is always best, but adding ice waters down the seductive flavour.

There is one very obvious choice when it comes to Irish beer: Guinness. This oatmeal stout is black, intensely flavoured and widely recognized as the beer of St. Paddy's Day, but there are lesser-known options.

Kilkenny is an Irish cream ale that is lighter than Guinness but with an equal amount of flavour and texture.

Each tall can of Guinness or Kilkenny contains a patented widget. This small plastic ball regulates the flow of beer from the can to your glass. The result is a frothy pour that layers into the perfect amount of head every time.

Each one of these Irish liquors can be crafted into drinkable masterpieces and become a great way to celebrate St. Paddy's Day, but choosing one is often hard. Some time ago there came about a way to enjoy all three at once. This overload is such an explosion of flavour it has been deemed the Irish Car Bomb.

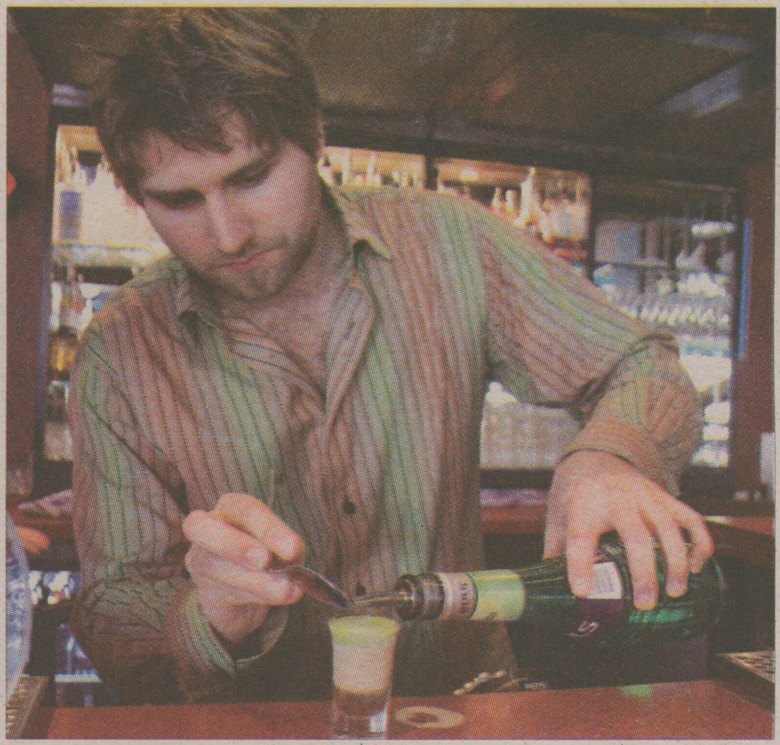
Combining Bailey's, Jameson's and Guinness may not sound appetizing.

The look of it when left too long is even more unappealing. However, when consumed properly as a drop shot, the result is like drinking a cup of chocolate milk, which can be very tempting.

For anyone not interested in anything actually made in Ireland, you can always celebrate with something green. One of the best tricks is to add food colouring to your favourite brand of beer.

A word to the wise: when adding colour, use a few drops of blue food colouring.

Don't forget the rule learned back in finger-painting class — blue and yellow make green, while green and yellow make brown. Another option is to prepare a green cocktail, such as an Emerald Isle martini.



AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

Haydn Johnstone, a bartender at Felicita's pub, crafts some Irish fun.

Emerald Isle Martini

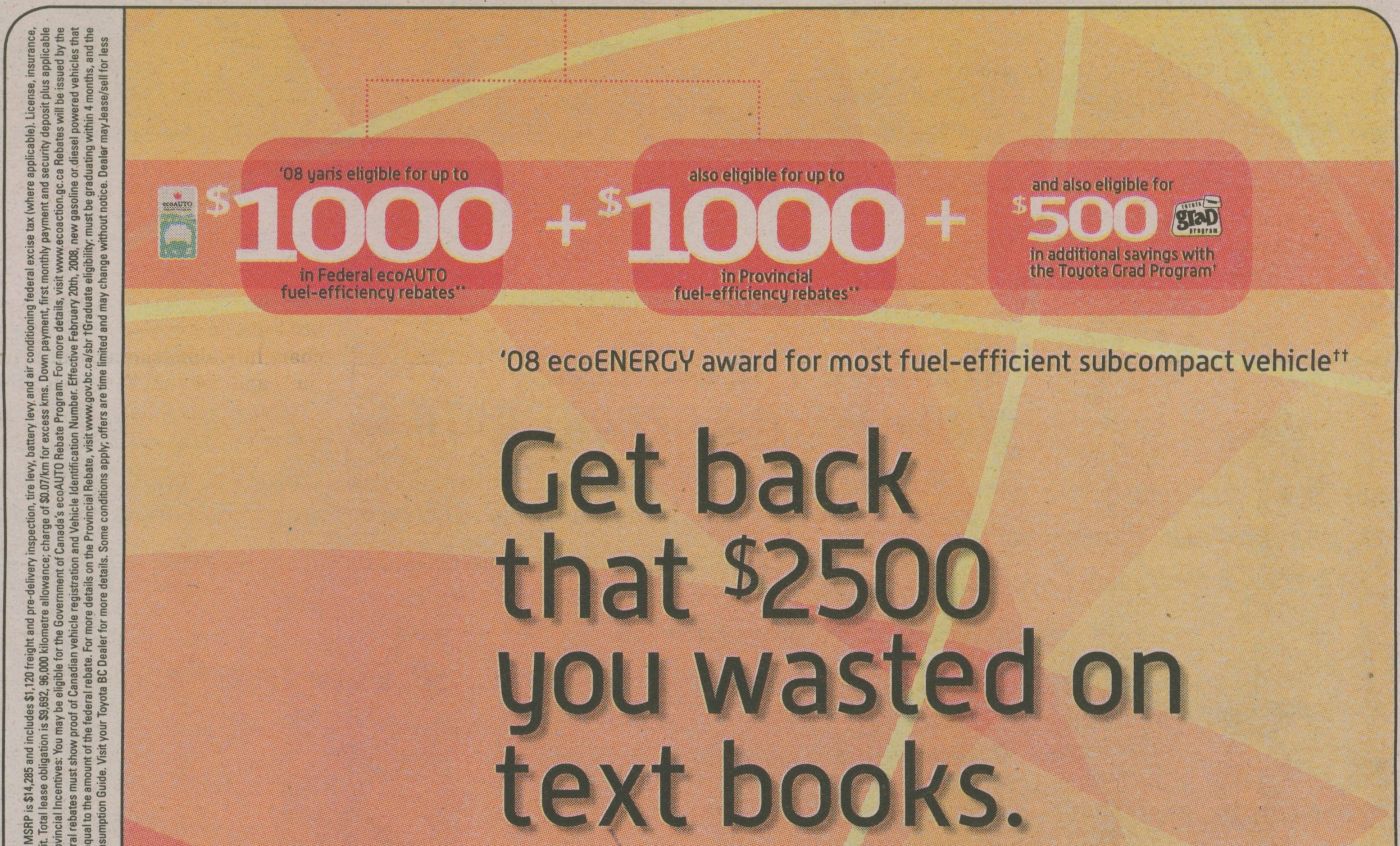
30 ml (1 oz) vodka
30 ml (1 oz) melon liqueur
15 ml (1/2 oz) lime margarita mix
Splash of sprite
Ice

Combine the ingredients in a martini shaker and shake. Strain into a martini glass to remove the ice. Makes one drink.

Irish Car Bomb

1/2 can of Guinness
30 ml (1 oz) Jameson's
Irish Whiskey
30 ml (1 oz) Bailey's
Irish Cream

In a large glass, combine the whiskey and Guinness. Fill a shot glass with Bailey's. When ready, drop the entire shot glass of Baileys into the beer and whisky, and drink the whole thing all at once. The mixture curdles if left to sit. Makes one drink.



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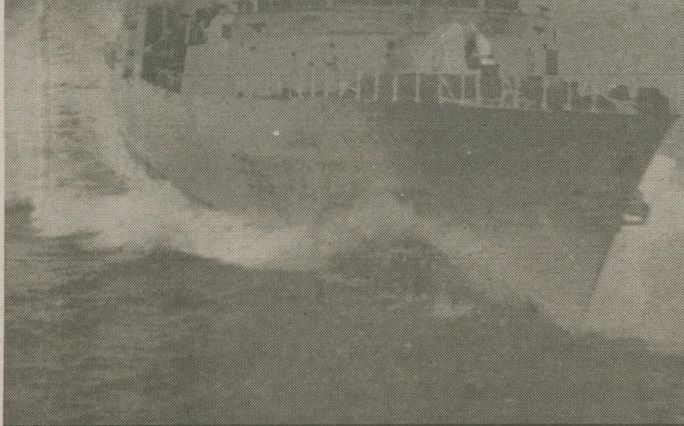

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Canada

More women playing video games: study

Marri Knadle

Female gamers already know they aren't really an anomaly, but now the Electronic Software Association has completed a study that confirms it.

Females make up 38 per cent of gamers, according to the study. Perhaps more surprising is the statistic that women aged 18 and older are a greater portion of the game-playing demographic (31 per cent) than the poster child of video games, boys aged 17 and younger (20 per cent).

Developers have certainly done something right recently to get women's attention, because the Electronic Software Association's statistics revealed that females play an average of two more hours per week than they did only a year ago. Men and women are about equal in terms of average weekly play: 7.4 hours per week for women, and 7.6 hours per week for men.

It's long been suggested that women play differently than men, and enjoy different aspects of games than men. Social aspects and the ability to customize games are generally selling points to the female market. On massively multiplayer online (MMO) games, which offer a high degree of character customization and plenty of social opportunities, for example, the male and female population is nearly balanced at 58 per cent men to 42 per cent women.

But the female market is diverse. There are women who enjoy light, casual gaming, both in terms of the games they play and the hours they're willing to spend to advance in a game. Lighter games such as *The Sims* and puzzle games for the Nintendo DS cater to that niche market. The Nintendo Wii has been applauded not only for getting women more involved in video games but also for increasing the pool of gamers. The Wii's titles appeal to those outside of the hardcore basement nerd coterie.

Although the stereotype of women disliking or being unskilled at video games is becoming tired within gaming circles, there is still evidence that women gamers are viewed as an anomaly. The publicity received by The Cavegirls (an all-girls *Halo 3* group) and *Assassin's Creed* producer Jade Raymond, to name but two examples, reflects a persistent sentiment of amazement that beauty and social skills (or at least two X-chromosomes) are compatible with a gaming lifestyle.

There's still something wrong when announcing your gender on an online game will provoke insults, come-ons or floods of chivalric offers of help. Male gamers are taken for granted because it's taken as the model on which the gaming industry was built. Men on games meet with indifference, and many female gamers express frustration that it isn't the case for them, too.

> Statistics revealed that females play an average of two more hours per week than they did only a year ago.

There's still work to be done in integrating those preferences into titles in a way that makes them an enjoyable experience for both genders. It's encouraging to see that the percentage of women in the gaming population has increased, and it's also encouraging to see that game developers are catching on to what aspects of games women enjoy.

But only when the need for such studies as the Electronic Software Association's disappears will the girl gamer be able to come into her own — no longer a side-show, but a mainstream game-lover alongside the boys.

JOSH SZCZEPANOWSKI PHOTO

Women over 18 make up a greater portion of the game-playing demographic than males under 18.

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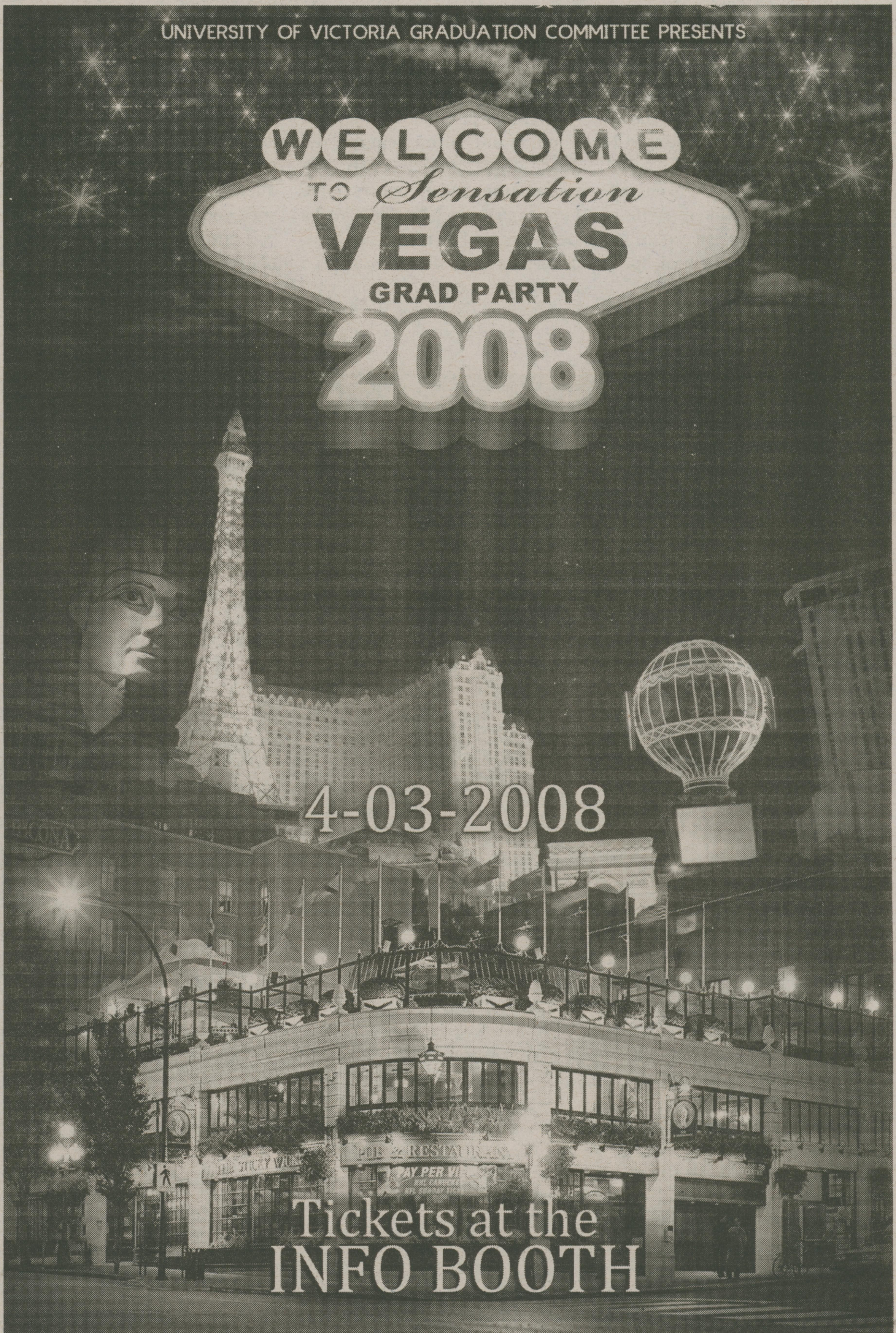


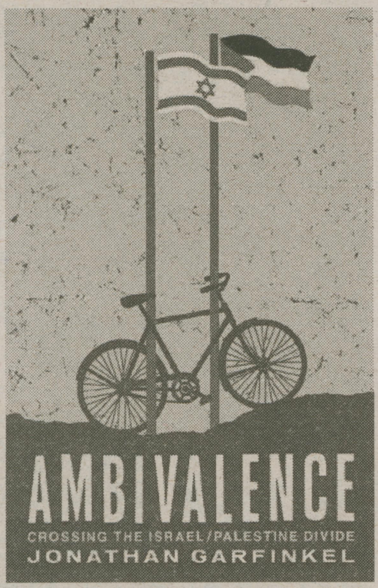
BOOK REVIEW

Ambivalence inspires thought

Jewish Canadian explores Israel and Palestine's desire for peace

Ambivalence: Crossing the Israel/Palestine Divide
Jonathan Garfinkel
Viking Canada
320 pages

Sam VanSchie



We Canadians are a nation of fence sitters, ready to debate issues but never taking a firm stance. It's in that Canadian tradition that poet-playwright Jonathan Garfinkel examines his Zionist-Jewish upbringing in his first book, *Ambivalence*.

In Toronto's vibrant Kensington Market, Garfinkel sings loyally from his prayer book, facing east toward Jerusalem. But that doesn't stop his skepticism toward his religious roots and uncertainty of the rights of his people to displace Arabs from the Jews' so-called holy land. A self-hating Jew at best, Garfinkel's uncertain cultural identity brings tension to his love life and sends him on a quest to Israel in search of signs of peace between these two cultures so that he might find peace in his own belief.

In the 2001 census, 4.8 million Canadians (16 per cent of the population) declared themselves as having no religion — a number that increased 44 per cent from the previous decade. Almost 40 per cent of those with no religion were aged 24 and under. This could suggest that religion is on its way out of our culture, making Garfinkel's strife to reconcile his faith seem exotic.

Told in four parts, the book opens in Toronto where a chat with an Arab woman at a film festival sparks an idea for a play. But what could have been a short research trip to Israel spirals into months of dazed wanderings through slums and a deep exercise in self-reflection.

"Peace isn't love, nor is it happiness. It means not killing your fucking neighbour," a house tells him before he passes out drunk or from high blood sugar (he's diabetic) on a stranger's couch. Yes, I did just say a house offered him these enlightened words. The author has lucid conversations with inanimate objects and voices of his past. Or at least, that's how he remembers it.

Garfinkel publishes under the popular and often scandalized genre of memoir. Recently, two more supposed memoirs have been exposed as fabricated: Misha Defonseca's international bestseller *Misha: A Memoir of the Holocaust Years* about her living with a pack of wolves during the Second World War and Margaret B. Jones's recently published *Love and Consequences* about L.A. gang violence. But if these women learned anything from James Frey's *A Million Little Pieces*, they know that sometimes a scandal sells books, after public apologies and adding a page or two of acknowledgment to what was fictionalized.

> 'Peace isn't love, nor is it happiness. It means not killing your fucking neighbour,' a house tells Garfinkel. Yes, I did just say a house.

In *Ambivalence*, it's the last two pages that reveal the author's less obvious liberties: he condenses time and uses several composite characters. To his credit, he meticulously fact checks and lists sources for the tidbits of information he picks up along the way. And perhaps without his gentle deceit, the book would not have been as engaging.

The author brings a poet's eye for detail and a playwright's ear for dialogue to his prose. He raises more questions than he answers; he'll suck you into his quest and leave you sitting where many Canadians began, firmly on the fence about what's right and wrong in the socio-political landscape of Israel.

ASK MISS MARTLET

Cure your hiccups

Danielle Pope

Dear Miss Martlet:

How do you get rid of the hiccups?

- Hic

Dear Hic:

Those pesky inverted coughs might be more annoying than harmful, but hiccups are one body function that's hard to exact when it comes to cures.

Hiccups (a.k.a. hiccoughs) are caused from an involuntary spasm in your diaphragm, which forces you to suck in a quick breath of air. The breath is stopped when the vocal chords in your throat close, resulting in that turbulent hic-hic sound.

Despite the myth that hiccups are your body's emergency response to needing extra oxygen, it's quite the opposite — too much oxygen in the blood can promote an attack. But while the trigger can be everything from swallowing air while eating to a full stomach, to smoking, to a sudden change in temperature or emotional excitement, to laughing or low sodium, in most cases the hiccups leave within a few minutes.

In rare cases, the reaction has been known to last for more than 48 hours, accompanied by abdominal pain among other symptoms. The best-known case was Charles Osborne, who began hiccupping in 1922 while slaughtering a hog and continued for 68 years until he died of complications from ulcers in 1991. But even Osborne was able to lead a normal life, marrying twice and having eight children despite his condition. Now doctors can prescribe drugs to cure chronic hiccupers.

The best way to stop regular hiccups is to increase the level of carbon dioxide in the bloodstream (hence holding your breath). They can also be alleviated when the vagus nerve that runs from the brain to the stomach is stimulated (like when you drink water).

Here's a short list of common hiccup cures. Results vary for everyone, so try a new one each time and you might find your match (sugar on the tongue works for this bird).

1. Hold your breath
2. Drink a glass of water quickly
3. Have someone scare you
4. Breathe in smelling salts
5. Pull on your tongue
6. Dissolve half a teaspoon of dry sugar on your tongue
7. Chew up and swallow one large marshmallow
8. Bite into a wedge of lemon
9. Drink a shot of apple vinegar
10. Rub the soft part of the pallet on the inside of your mouth for 20-30 seconds

If nothing forces the little troublemakers off, patience might be your only defence against waiting for those hiccups to leave.

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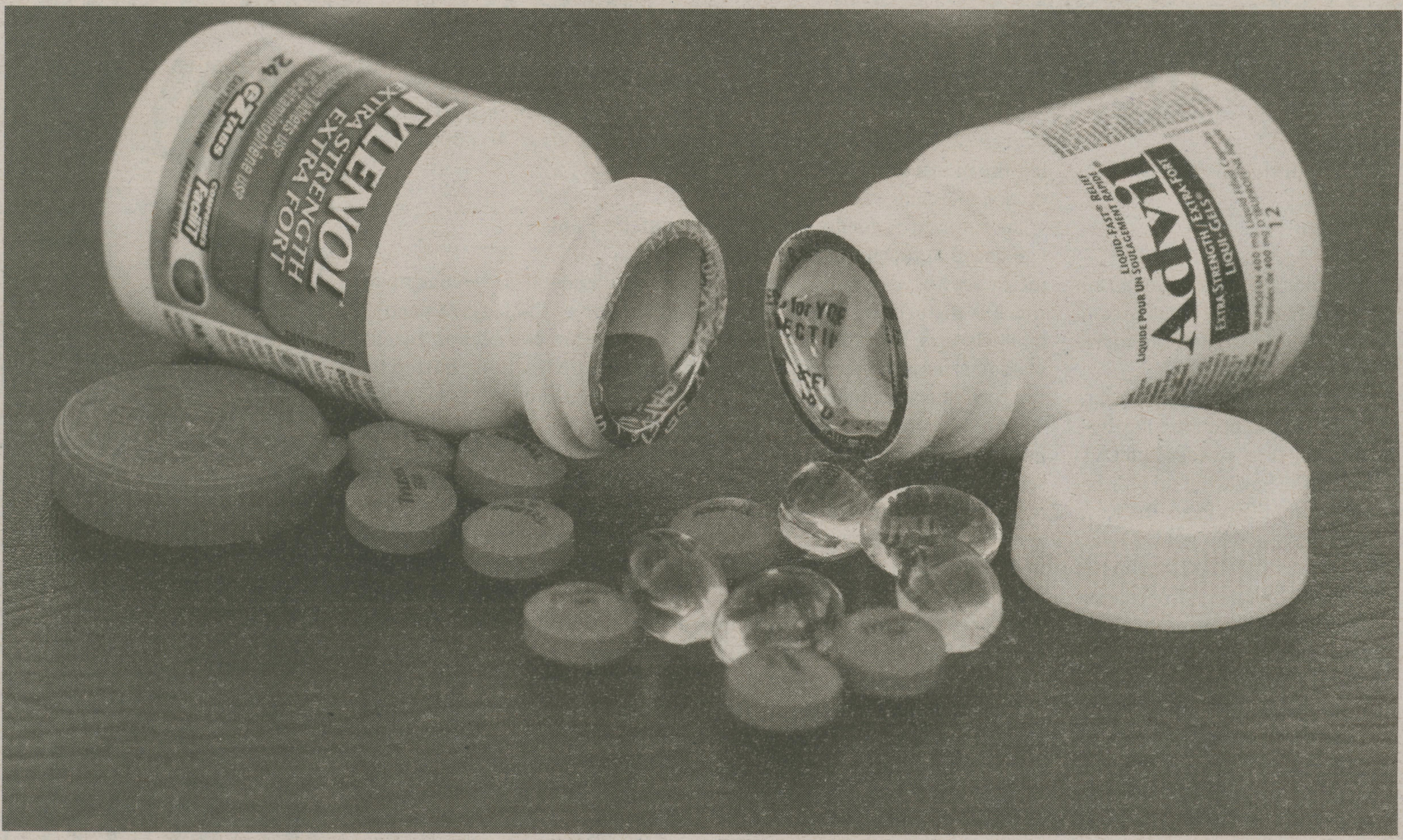
Painful truth about Advil and Tylenol

Meghan MacEachern
THE XAVERIAN WEEKLY



JOSH SZCZEPANOWSKI PHOTO

Exams might be looming, but those tension headaches deserve the right treatment. Be careful which painkillers you choose.

(CUP) — A headache strikes, muscle pain seizes your body and you're running a fever. You make your way to the nearest drug store and manage to find the pain relief section.

To your horror, you discover that choosing the right pain reliever is much like the multiple-choice exam you wrote last week. You are stumped: Advil, Tylenol, acetaminophen, ibuprofen?

Advil and Tylenol are biggest players in over-the-counter pain management. It seems like everyone has their preference as to which one works best, but where do the differences lie?

Tylenol is the biggest brand name behind the drug acetaminophen, while Advil is the largest brand name for ibuprofen. Advil, Midol, Motrin and ibuprofen are classified as "non-steroidal anti-inflammatory" drugs.

They work in the body to reduce pain, swelling and fever, and can be used to treat minor injuries. It is believed that ibuprofen reduces the production of a hormone-like complex that produces inflammation, making it a common favourite for people with menstrual cramps, headaches, arthritis, muscle pain and fever. Regular-strength ibuprofen comes in 200 milligram tablets or capsules, while extra-strength is a 400 milligram dose.

Using ibuprofen too frequently or in high doses can cause serious side effects, such as gastrointestinal bleeding, so it's important to follow the recommended dosage on the bottle or the instructions of a physician closely. Taking ibuprofen with food can greatly reduce any minor side effects such as an upset stomach.

People who cannot tolerate ibuprofen often use Tylenol or acetaminophen. While it's not completely understood how acetaminophen functions once in the body, it is believed that the drug increases one's pain threshold by blocking pain receptors in the nervous system. It does not reduce stiffness, redness or inflammation, however. In other words, it deceives the body into thinking the pain is gone.

Similar to ibuprofen, acetaminophen can cause an upset stomach ,which can be countered by consuming food. A more serious but common side effect of taking too much acetaminophen is liver failure. One American report found that nearly half of all liver failures studied were due to accidental acetaminophen overdoses.

When ingested, a small portion of acetaminophen is metabolized in the liver, producing a toxic compound that gradually damages the liver. When taken frequently or in large quantities, it can be extremely dangerous.

This effect is amplified when consumed with alcohol, or when taken the morning after a few drinks. The enzyme used to metabolize acetaminophen in the body can also metabolize alcohol, making the alcohol actually compete with acetaminophen for this enzyme in the liver. This then causes more of the toxin to remain present in the liver.

Taking ibuprofen with a light snack is generally the safer choice to make, but anyone using painkillers frequently (especially without medical advisement) should be aware that there are risks to going pain-free.

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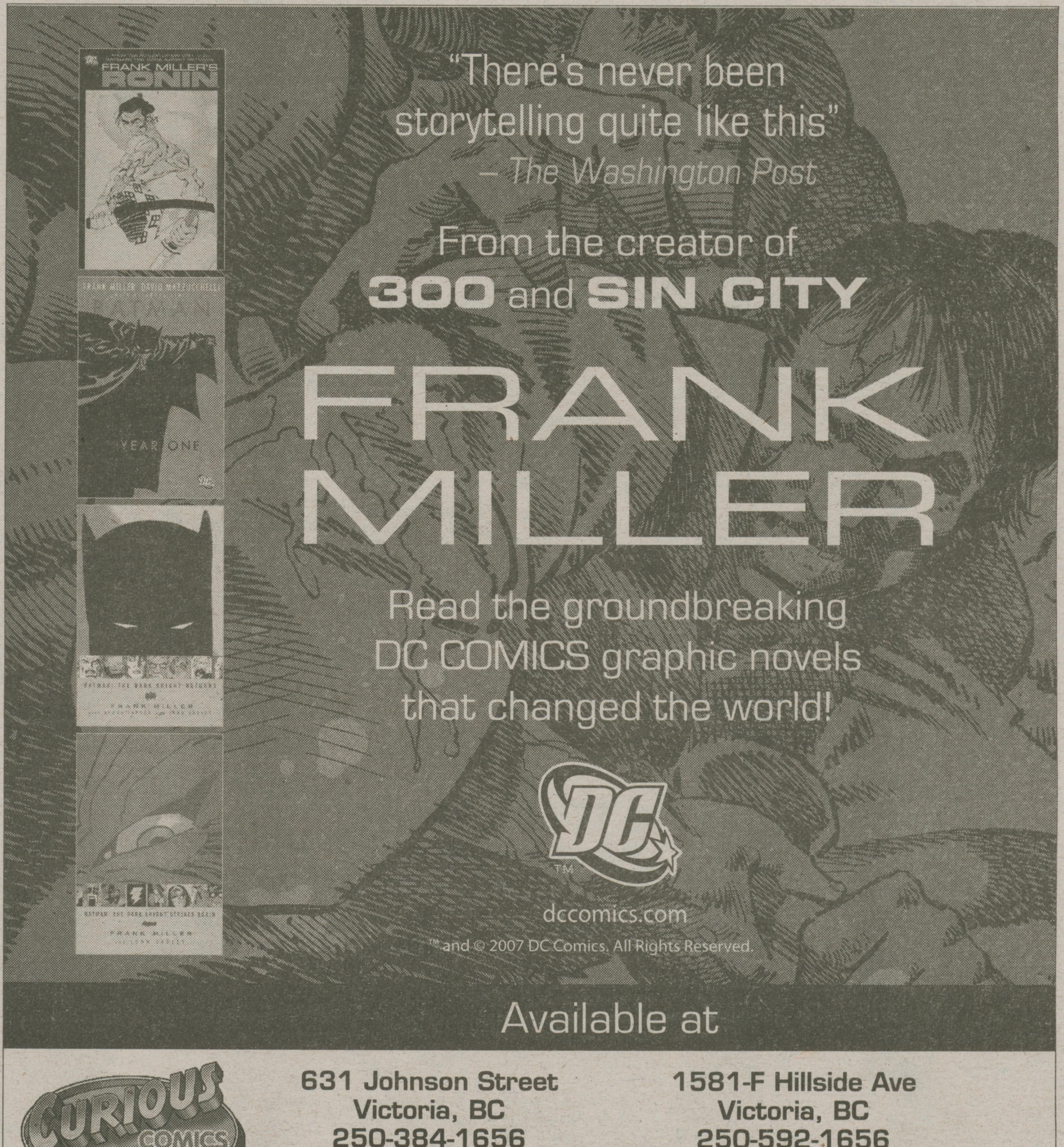

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DVD REVIEW

Ellen Page not too sweet in Hard Candy

Hard Candy
Vulcan Productions

Kim Magi

I never thought I would be afraid of a 14-year-old girl. I was proven wrong when I watched the movie *Hard Candy*.

Premiered just over three years ago at the Sundance Film Festival, the film was later released on DVD in April 2006. I picked it up now because it stars Ellen Page, the Nova Scotian actress who gained overnight fame as the title character in Juno. Page is so talented, people are now picking up copies of this older film she starred in.

In *Hard Candy*, Page plays a 14-year-old girl named Hayley Stark who has been chatting online with 32-year-old Jeff Kohlver (Patrick Wilson) for three weeks. Flirting in chat rooms, Stark suggests they meet at local coffee shop. Eventually Kohlver brings the teen back to his apartment, and you could cringe when you think you know what happens next, but you're probably wrong.

In his home studio, Stark pulls out Kohlver's vodka and starts mixing screwdrivers (what else would a 14 year old drink?). Then comes the GHB. This is where it begins to get interesting, because it is Stark spiking the man's drink and he wakes up tied to a chair.

The reversal of gender roles and age-based authority in this movie messes with your morals and at times is disturbing, especially for male viewers. But what is perhaps most amazing is the strength of these two then-undiscovered actors.

Before seeing Juno, I had never heard of Ellen Page, and before seeing *Hard Candy*, I hadn't heard of Patrick Wilson. Now that I've seen both, I can't believe I had never seen either of these phenomenal actors in anything else. There are only five characters in the whole movie, but it's basically a two-person show. The best part is that it doesn't feel like it. The conversation between Stark and Kohlver flows and sounds completely natural. Interesting use of camera angles also keeps you visually engaged.

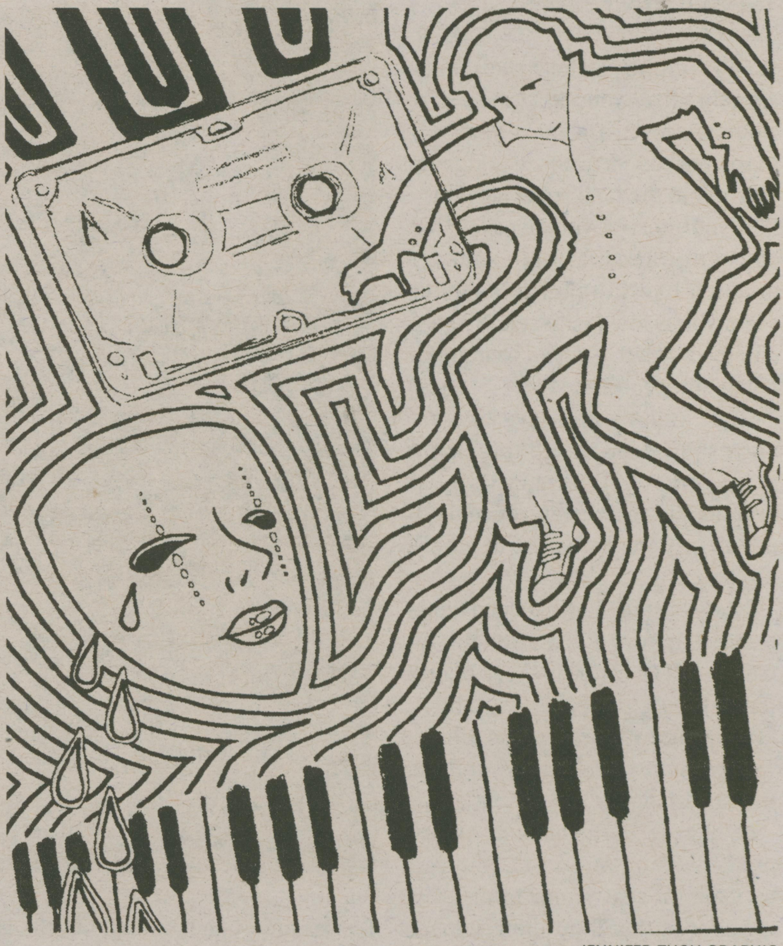
All in all, *Hard Candy* delivers strong performances and an original story line.

You may also want to see Ellen Page riding a bus wearing only a shower curtain in *The Tracy Fragments*. The artsy film set in Hamilton, Ont. was screened at the Victoria Film Festival and was released on DVD March 11.

ON CAMPUS

Fine arts cats ready to spring

What: SPRUNG fine arts party
When: Tues. March 18, 4-10 p.m.
Where: UVic Visual Arts Building
How much: $2



JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

Danielle Pope

Fine arts students are coiling up to launch one of the biggest parties their program has seen in recent years. SPRUNG will be hosted by the Fine Arts Student Association on Tuesday, and the event that welcomes both a change in season and a cross-section of talent promises to be worth the anticipation.

Representatives from the departments of history in art, visual art, theatre, music, writing and graduate studies came together to plan the process.

Chelsea Rushton, president of the Writing Student Union, was asked to represent the writing department in planning the event.

Rushton said the group shared a like-minded vision, which helped with the collaboration process the drive behind it.

"Fine arts students seem to work in perpetual quarantine, both from other fine arts students and from the university at large," said Rushton. "SPRUNG, hopefully, will help to bridge that rift and bring a lot of students together."

Rushton blames the nature of artists's work and the department's out-of-the-way locations on campus for causing the separation, but she hopes fine arts students aren't the only ones in attendance. The $2 cover charge doesn't just spring the opportunity for guests to enjoy readings, improv performances, films, concerts, art and mingling with arts students, it also raises money for arts course unions still scrounging for funds.

And while it may not be the first of its kind or as well promoted as the engineering pub crawls, it will be a step up for fine arts students who are often left behind in the party department, sipping wine in a basement with a small handful of friends. Rushton sees SPRUNG as positive move.

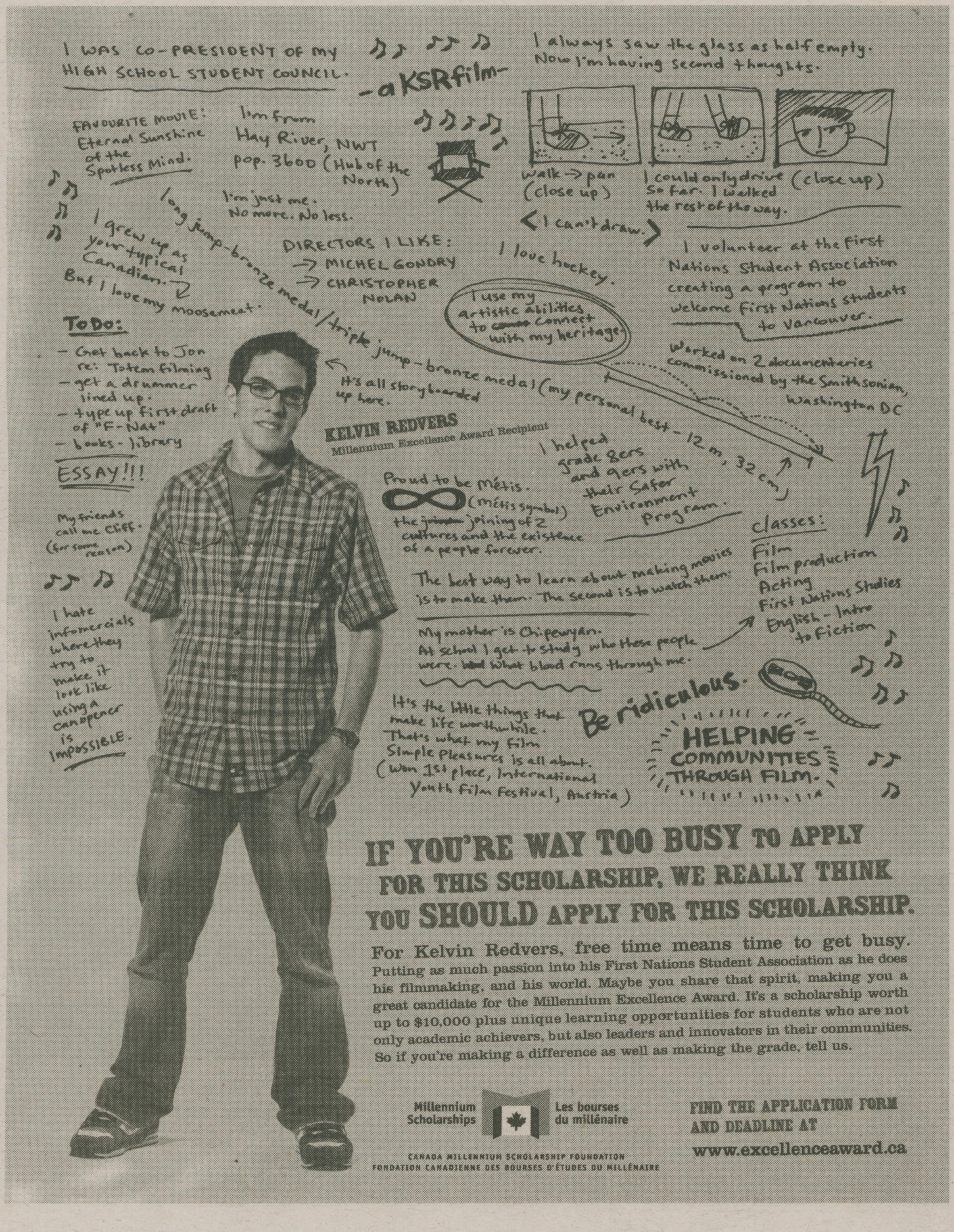
"It's going to serve as sort of a big fine arts open house," she said. "Each department will have its own space at the party, and guests will be free to wander in and out of these spaces at their leisure."

The departments will be showcasing some of the best student work. While a few upper-level classes opted to "elect" candidates to represent their department, other participants have volunteered their talents.

But the abilities don't stop at the art. There will be bake tables, among other offerings, to raise money for Writing Student Union projects.

Rushton said there are three important reasons no one should miss SPRUNG: it's a great chance to party on a Tuesday night, guests can schmooze with extremely talented people, and there will be food, booze, dancing and a button-making machine.

"Honestly, there won't be a better party on campus all year," Rushton said.


I WAS CO-PRESIDENT OF MY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL.
-a KSRfilm-
I always saw the glass as half empty. Now I'm having second thoughts.
FAVOURITE MOVIE: Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind.
I'm from Hay River, NWT pop. 3600 (Hub of the North)
walk → pan (close up)
I could only drive so far. I walked the rest of the way.
(close up)
I'm just me. No more. No less.
< I can't draw. >
I grew up as your typical Canadian. But I love my moosemeat.
long jump-bronze medal/triple jump-bronze medal (my personal best - 12 m, 32 cm)
DIRECTORS I LIKE: → MICHEL GONDRY → CHRISTOPHER NOLAN
I love hockey.
I volunteer at the First Nations Student Association creating a program to welcome First Nations students to Vancouver.
I use my artistic abilities to ~~come~~ connect with my heritage.
TO DO:
- Get back to Jon re: Totem filming
- get a drummer lined up.
- type up first draft of "F-Nat"
- books - library
ESSAY!!!
It's all storyboarded up here.
Worked on 2 documentaries commissioned by the Smithsonian, Washington DC
KELVIN REDVERS
Millennium Excellence Award Recipient
I helped grade 8ers and 9ers with their Safer Environment Program.
Proud to be Métis.
(métis symbol) the ~~join~~ joining of 2 cultures and the existence of a people forever.
My friends call me Cliff. (for some reason)
classes: Film Film production Acting First Nations Studies English - Intro to Fiction
The best way to learn about making movies is to make them. The second is to watch them.
I hate infomercials where they try to make it look like using a can opener is IMPOSSIBLE.
My mother is Chipewyan. At school I get to study who these people were. ~~What~~ What blood runs through me.
It's the little things that make life worthwhile. That's what my film Simple Pleasures is all about. (Won 1st place, International Youth Film Festival, Austria)
Be ridiculous.
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Chan Marshall
MATADOR RECORDS

Chan Marshall, we believed in you. *Jukebox* sold 65,000 copies worldwide in its first week because after *The Greatest* (2006) we thought you were on the ups again.

Another cover record? Sure, why not? *The Covers Record* (2000) wasn't half bad, and the film *Speaking for Trees* (2004) radiates the diamond-in-the-rough charm that we've loved in you for so long. Plus, you've been through a lot. You deserve a break.

Two weeks before the release of *The Greatest*, you were admitted to the Mount Sinai Medical Center in Miami because you had an alcohol-induced psychiatric break — but the thing is, Chan, our empathy toward your personal life doesn't save *Jukebox* from being dull. It felt like Wilco's Sky Blue Sky all over again — the new lineup, hype, disappointment and foreseeable soft-rock station future.

It felt like you said, "I wrote 'He War,' I wrote 'The Moon' and I crawled out of my Scotch bottle! What more do you want from me?"

Well, Chan, at least you've still got your smoky, lonesome voice that saves *Jukebox* from being a complete loss. Like any dive bar jukebox, there's at least a song or two that stands out because I know the words. My highest play count is on Janis Joplin's "A Woman Left Lonely," but frankly, I'd rather listen to the original. The same goes for every other song.

Gilded by Matt Sweeney's touch, *Jukebox*'s high point is the album's only new song, "Song for Bobby" — it is cute, accessible and hearkens to the unsubstantiated intimacy many feel toward Bob Dylan. "Song for Bobby" is ironic in that many of us could write a similar song about you.

Cat Power, you are the thinking woman's Liz Phair and Jenny Lewis's southern sullen sister. You're badass yet vulnerable in a way we can only dream of emulating.

We still believe in you Chan, but please don't let this happen again. There's only so much our hearts and wallets can take.

- Jessica Bloom

No Sleep At All
Creature
BONSOUND RECORDS

Who's hot, who's not? Creature's first full-length album *No Sleep At All* may fit snugly into both categories.

From the opening track, "Who's hot, who's not" to the grand finale, "Star," the four-member Montreal band will rock your socks until they reek. But the psychedelic '80s-riffing chords and less-than-tricky beat lyrics don't just force you to dance; they force you to sing along — uncontrollably. Picture a hybrid mutant of Sir Mix A Lot and the Spice Girls decked out in vibrant neon, and you might have an idea of what you're in for.

Each track separates itself from the rest and you could be listening to a new band with every song. One moment you're head-bopping to tones that meld Abba and Prozzäk, such as in "Pop Culture," the next you're whipping moves straight out of Saturday Night Fever when the Bee Gees sound merges with a reverberation of the Offspring, Roxette and Shaggy in "Don't Be Afraid."

As bad as it all sounds (and there are moments that leave you gawking while grooving) there's something undeniably addictive about the fruity-pop-power-rock flavour Creature offers. In the high spirit of the '80s, complete with the squealing, the grunge and the glory of it all, this band has mixed some of the best and worst sounds of the last 30 years into one fresh roll of tang.

The track that will not leave that space between your ears, though, is the resonating "Bridget bardot." As the lyrics repeat six, seven, then 12 times: "We don't, we don't, need no sleep at all," you sing along, fearing for your own sanity.

But by that point, it's much too late. Creature's *No Sleep At All* is the heroin of musical drugs. You know it's bad for you going in. It hurts as much as it gives pleasure. But you have to be careful. Once the fun starts, you won't be able to stop.

- Danielle Pope

Charmed and Strange
Yoav
VERVE FORECAST

You've never heard of Yoav. But if you like progressive music, you will. The London-based artist, by way of Israel, Cape Town and New York, has just released his debut album, *Charmed and Strange*.

Yoav incorporates a wide range of musical influences, from the opera and classical tunes of his childhood, to Radiohead and Beck, to electronic dance, hip-hop and drum 'n' bass. And he mashes them all together with nothing more than his acoustic guitar and a couple of pedals.

According to his bio, Yoav discovered his new sound while on a mushroom trip in Central Park. Instead of strumming his guitar, he started banging out some drum 'n' bass beats on it. This drew a crowd, and Yoav spent the next few years experimenting to find ways to transfer club music to his acoustic guitar. Then, after years of being rejected as "too unique" in the United States, he moved to London and found appreciation.

This move led to *Charmed and Strange*. Recorded in Oxford and Montreal, this 11-track album is strong. "Club Thing" sounds like something Justin Timberlake would love to record, and "Live" and "Where Is My Mind" are reminiscent of a less-industrial Trent Reznor. "Wake Up" is dark and broody, while "There Is Nobody" will pull you on to the dance floor.

By track three, I had uploaded Yoav onto my MP3 player and I have a feeling he'll be staying on it for a while.

- Nathan Lowther

Come Close
Saosin
VIRGIN RECORDS

I remember when Saosin was a hot new screamo band. I was a disenfranchised 20-something hipster and listening to exclusively Trustkill and Ferret records bands, thinking they were kind of cool for an emo band. But now they're sharing their promo packages with Fat Joe — a world-record worthy leap from their emo/hardcore roots.

Saosin have left behind the insular independent hardcore scene that reared them and previous bands Open Hand and As Hope Dies. Since signing to Capitol in 2005, original bass player Zach Kennedy left to join Ashlee Simpson's band and original singer Anthony Green went on to form Circa Survive — at least he didn't end up singing doo-wops with John Mayer.

The record isn't a terrible one, but with five new songs it comes in a little short of an entire set. The rest of the CD is rounded out with alternate versions of Saosin songs. The disc itself would be a throwaway if not accompanied by a live DVD.

The DVD opens with a few artsy shots with soft focusing and the editing consists of some quick and edgy cuts that suit the band's style. The menu tracking features float-out song titles. They dreamily sweep across the screen with expanded kerning and letterspacing.

Overall, the sound on the DVD portion has a dampened feel to it that eliminates the raw decibel rush you normally get from a live show. Your money would be better spent seeing Saosin get sweaty and nasty live.

- Jodie Thomson

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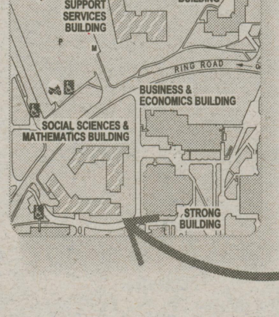
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Barnard Cup champs too much for UVic

Andrew Smith

The biggest rivalry in CDI Premier League rugby saw the UVic Vikes go head to head with James Bay at McDonald Park on March 8.

The game was anticipated to be the best of the spring season, after James Bay downed UVic in the Barnard Cup championship last fall.

The match lived up to its billing, with crunching tackles and forceful hits being heard from the sidelines. But once again, the sheer force and experience of the James Bay side proved too much for UVic to handle. James Bay beat the young team 15-12.

UVic got off to an amazing start with Gordie Sawyers' blistering run through the James Bay defence. His try was converted by Nathan Hirayama to pull the Vikes seven points ahead.

But James Bay responded, lifting the intensity. Both sides gave everything they had, with players crushing one another in pursuit of possession. A late James Bay surge pushed them deep into the Vikes 22 after two penalties, but a resilient defence held off any tries.

ANDREW SMITH PHOTO

UVic went up against James Bay in one of the most physical games of the spring season on March 8.

The second half got underway with huge hits and a pace that tired even the fittest of the young Vikes squad. Much to the delight of the red-faced James Bay fans, the home team pushed over for a try, followed by a successful conversion.

The two sides were now level with seven points each, but things were not looking up for UVic. Vikes star Hirayama injured his leg attempting a tackle, leaving UVic without their kicker, who also happened to be one of their leading scorers.

But the Vikes assault on the home side was far from over. Sawyers ran three quarters of the field to set Ty Shannon up for a try. But the Vikes missed a clutch conversion, losing two pivotal points in the close game, now at 12-7.

The try intensified James Bay's attack and their rucking and mauling pushed them deep into the Vikes half. The sheer force of James Bay's forward pack tired the Vikes, resulting in a penalty to narrow the margin to two points.

The rucks continued as James Bay grinded out their possession scraping each meter they gained. Eventually, the older team managed to push themselves over, taking the lead by three points.

UVic proceeded to panic, kicking away their possession as the clock wore down.

"We let up pressure in the last 10 minutes," said Vikes coach Doug Tate.

UVic now boasts a 4-2 record in the Premier League. They will head to the mainland to take on first-place Capilano on March 15.

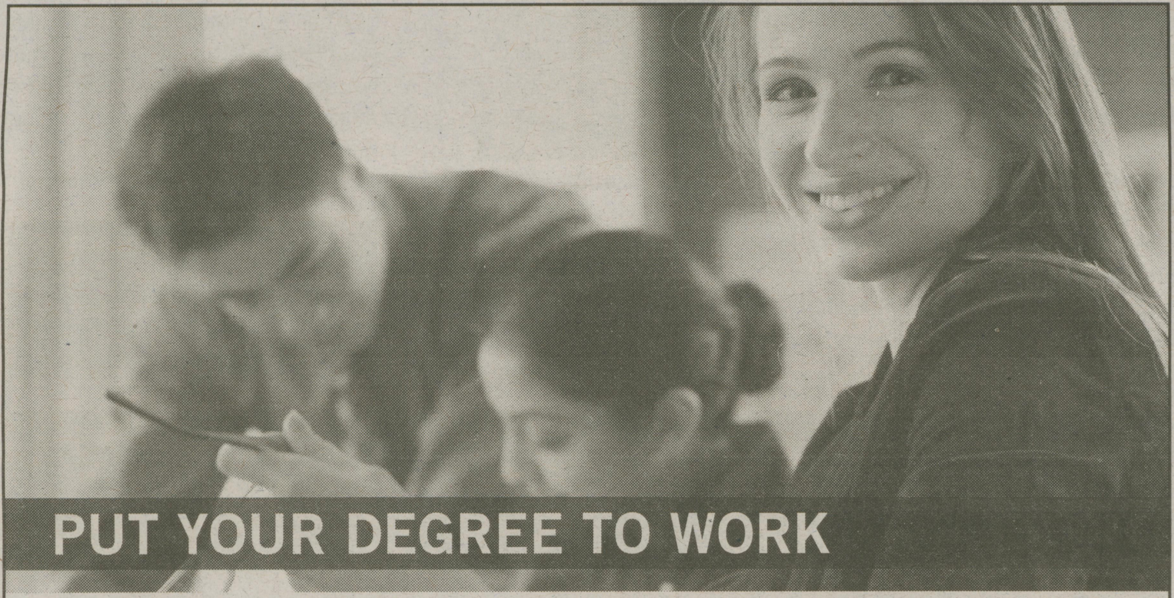
VIKES SCOREBOARD

MEN'S FIELD HOCKEY
March 9 India Club 2 Vikes 1
March 10 Vikes 3 United Brothers 3

WOMEN'S SOCCER
March 9 Whitecaps 1 Vikes 0

MEN'S RUGBY
March 8 James Bay 15 Vikes 12

MEN'S SOCCER
March 9 Vikes 0 Whitecaps 0



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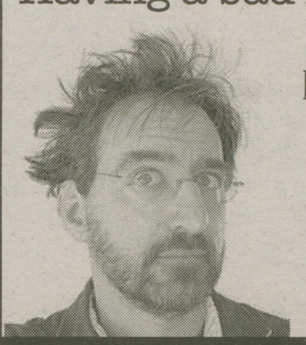

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ANDREW SMITH PHOTO

UVic forward Cole McFarlane (right) dukes it out with the Whitecaps during a March 9 exhibition game.

Vikes keep up with pros

Andrew Smith

UVic's men's soccer team held a powerful Vancouver Whitecaps side to a 0-0 draw during a March 9 exhibition game.

Both sides pressed hard in the opening half, searching for a goal. The Vikes offence was often crushed by the size and skill of Whitecaps defenseman Omar Jarun. But UVic held off an onslaught of attacks by the Vancouver forwards. Vikes goalie Dan Kilpatrick was exceptional in keeping the ball out of UVic's net.

Midfield turnovers were forced by both sides as they fought tenaciously for the long balls and goal kicks. The Caps were unable to establish a dominant presence in the midfield throughout the first. The Vikes midfield were able to thread passes and generate offensive plays, keeping up with the more experienced Vancouver team.

In the second half, the Whitecaps began to find their rhythm. They controlled the tempo of the half with pristine passing. The Vikes, however, were somewhat flat, losing possession quickly.

With 19 minutes left in the game, the Vikes began to look alive. They pressed on for a deep run down the wing, just narrowly missing the net. The home side was suddenly in high gear, pressing for a number of counterattacks.

A player was brought down just outside the box, setting up UVic's best scoring chance. UVic's Kelsey Louie stepped up for the free kick, narrowly missing as Vancouver keeper Jay Nolly pushed the shot over the crossbar.

The game was in full flight in the closing minutes with both sides shooting for the win. Players from each side bolted down the wings making runs to deliver to forwards eagerly awaiting the ball. Vikes forwards Cole McFarlane and Peter Richmond made great runs but were held off by the resilient Caps defense.

Vikes coach Bruce Wilson said that McFarlane, who was named a Canada West First Team All-Stars at the end of the fall season, could play quite comfortably at the professional level of the Whitecaps.

"We played exceptionally well out there today," said Wilson. "We battled out there and it was a hard game."

Next up, the Vikes will host UBC, Trinity Western and the Whitecaps Development team in the Keg Spring Cup on March 29 and 30.

WHO ARE THE WHITECAPS?

The Vancouver Whitecaps soccer club is made up of several teams, including the professional men's team which competes in the first division of the United Soccer League, a professional women's team, and a Premier Development team.

Last season the men's first division team lost in the quarter-finals. In 2006, they won the USL first division championship.

The men's first division team currently has several notable players. Defender Diaz Kambere was recently named to the 2008 Canadian team for Olympic qualifying.

The Whitecaps were founded in 1974 but were forced to fold in 1984 due to league instability. In 1986, the club came back as the 86ers, playing in the Canadian Soccer League. The club was renamed the Vancouver Whitecaps in 2001. The club's name refers to the white caps both on the nearby mountains and Pacific Ocean.

Currently, the men's team plays at Swangard Stadium in Burnaby, B.C., although a new stadium at Waterfront Station in downtown Vancouver is currently being considered.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Vikes medal at CIS track and field championships

UVic's middle distance team took four medals home from the CIS track and field championships, held at McGill University from March 6-8.

Fourth-year Vike Geoff Martinson won gold in the men's 1500-metre event, with teammate Johannes Mallie taking the bronze medal. The pair, along with Rich Lehman and Darren Mazzei, were also part of the Vikes 4x800 metre men's relay team who won gold in the tournament. Ashley Hinter rounded out UVic's medal winnings, taking gold in the women's 1500 metre event.

UVic's men's team finished ninth overall with 39 points. The women's team finished 12th with 21 points.

UBC win women's basketball title

UBC's women's basketball team won the CIS Championship on March 9 after defeating the University of Regina Cougars 67-46 in the tournament's gold medal game.

This is the seventh time UBC has taken the title. They last won in 2006.

The Thunderbirds went into the tournament ranked third in the country behind Vancouver's Simon Fraser University and Hamilton's McMaster University.

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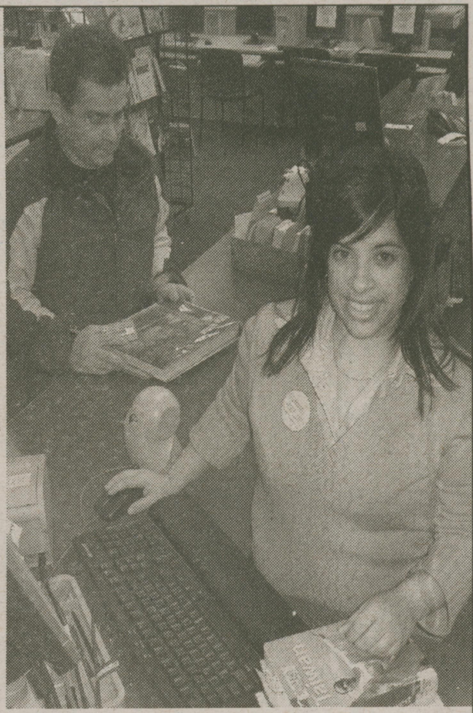

Meet Vicki.
Vicki loves working at the Greater Victoria Public Library. She began as a page in 1994 and switched to circulation assistant a few years ago. But despite working on a full-time basis, Vicki is still considered an auxiliary with no job security or benefits.
In 2006, a regular GVPL employee doing Vicki's work earned $3.89 an hour less than a clerk typist at Victoria city hall. Vicki, an auxiliary, earned $5.01 an hour less.
Vicki loves her library as much as you do. She only wants what other City workers in equivalent positions earn.
So have a heart. Please ask your municipal councillor to tell the GVLRA and the GVPL to get back to the bargaining table with Greater Victoria's public library workers and negotiate a deal that includes pay equity.
A message from CUPE 410. CUPE Canadian Union of Public Employees

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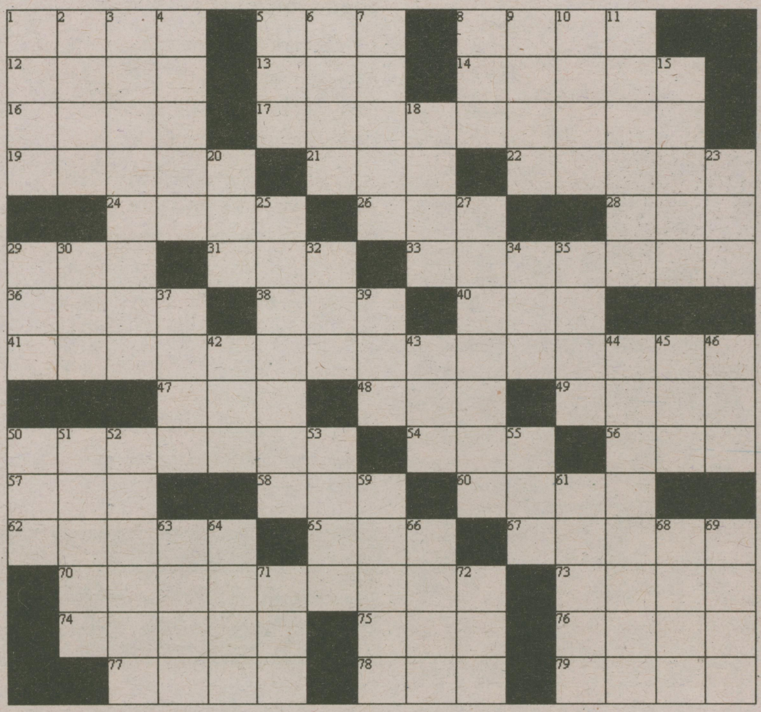

Across

1 Important time, for 3 down
5 Religious path
8 Mormon state
12 Nautical direction
13 Airport acronym
14 Goes it alone
16 Use an awl
17 Horrifying villain
19 Sows
21 Clown's ammo
22 Lethargic
24 Actor Noah
26 Blue
28 Star Trek shapeshifter
29 Long, long ____
31 Thanksgiving treat
33 Scorning speeches
36 Popular video game
38 Republican's colour
40 Finish a roof
41 Horrifying director
47 Aura
48 Homer's phrase
49 Urban problem
50 Like the green-eyed monster
54 Green or white
56 Recede
57 Food scrap
58 Pop's business partner
60 Tow
62 Croc kin
65 London timepiece
67 Land parcel
70 Horrifying novel
73 Actor Epps
74 Duck down
75 Eggs
76 Female equine
77 Beatty and Flanders
78 Capture
79 Chip in chips

Down

1 Pats
2 Burn lotion
3 Horrifying creature
4 Dependent
5 Pin number
6 Overhead
7 Gallagher band
8 Exploit
9 Punishable deed
10 J'ai ____
11 Dragster
15 Elvis' fabric
18 Daring deed
20 Cunning
23 Early IBM software
25 Hearing necessity
27 Abandoned (slang)
29 Eureka!
30 Buffalo ____
32 Apathetic utterance
34 Stadium cheer
35 Rainbows
37 Dentist word
39 Performed
42 A____U
43 Wee one
44 Horrifying film (with 'The')
45 Corn unit
46 Soviet agent: (abbr.)
50 Refresh the memory
51 Turn a pencil around
52 Get
53 Weeps
55 Skill
59 Brunch serving
61 Fragrance
63 ____ English
64 Marsh feature
66 Super ____
68 Buggy's partner
69 Ancestry guide
71 Fem. Title
72 Bill

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		6				2		
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	3	5				4	2	
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	7		2		5		1	
		8				7		
5		2		6		3		4

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Sarah Webb, UVic sustainability co-ordinator

Carole Taylor, B.C. finance minister

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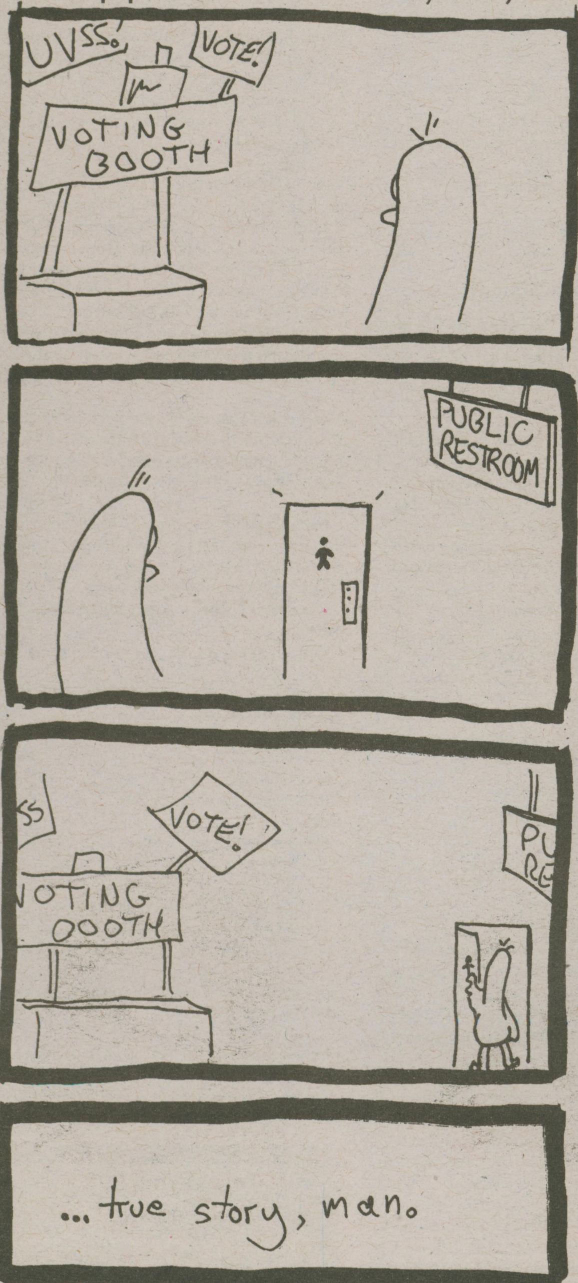
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PUBLIC RESTROOM
VOTE!
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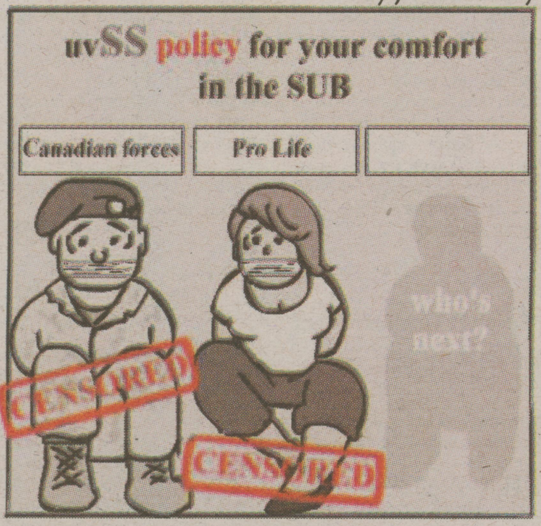
by James Roney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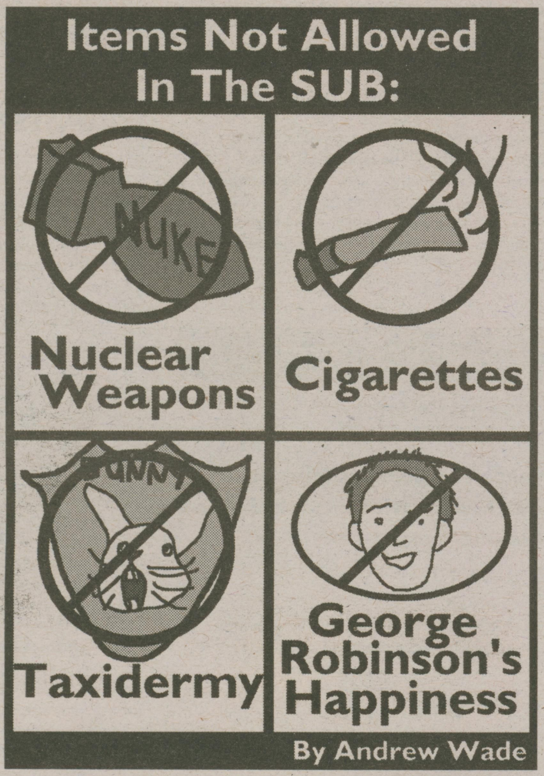
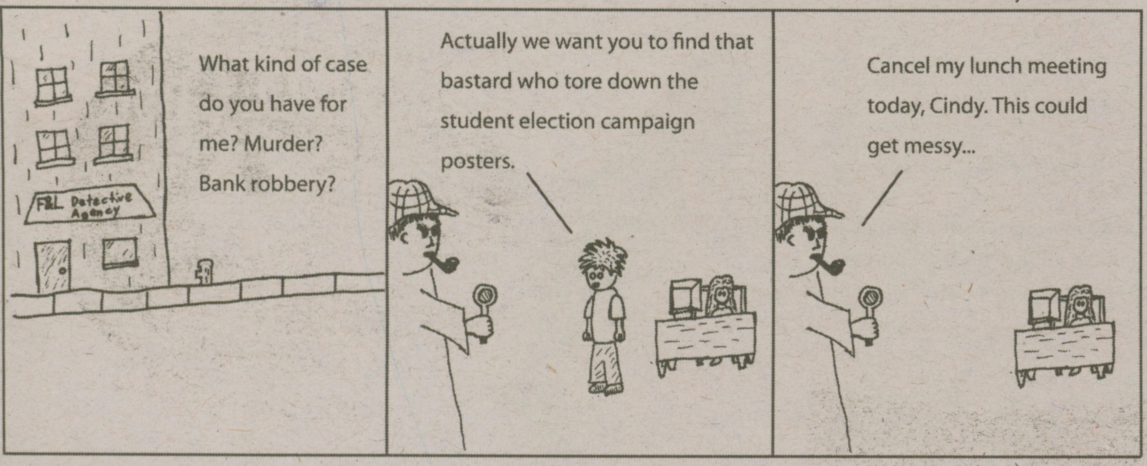
CENSORED
CENSORED
who's next?


Items Not Allowed In The SUB:
NUKE
Nuclear Weapons
Cigarettes
BUNNY
Taxidermy
George Robinson's Happiness
By Andrew Wade

e^xponential decay by Gord Duff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What kind of case do you have for me? Murder? Bank robbery?
Actually we want you to find that bastard who tore down the student election campaign posters.
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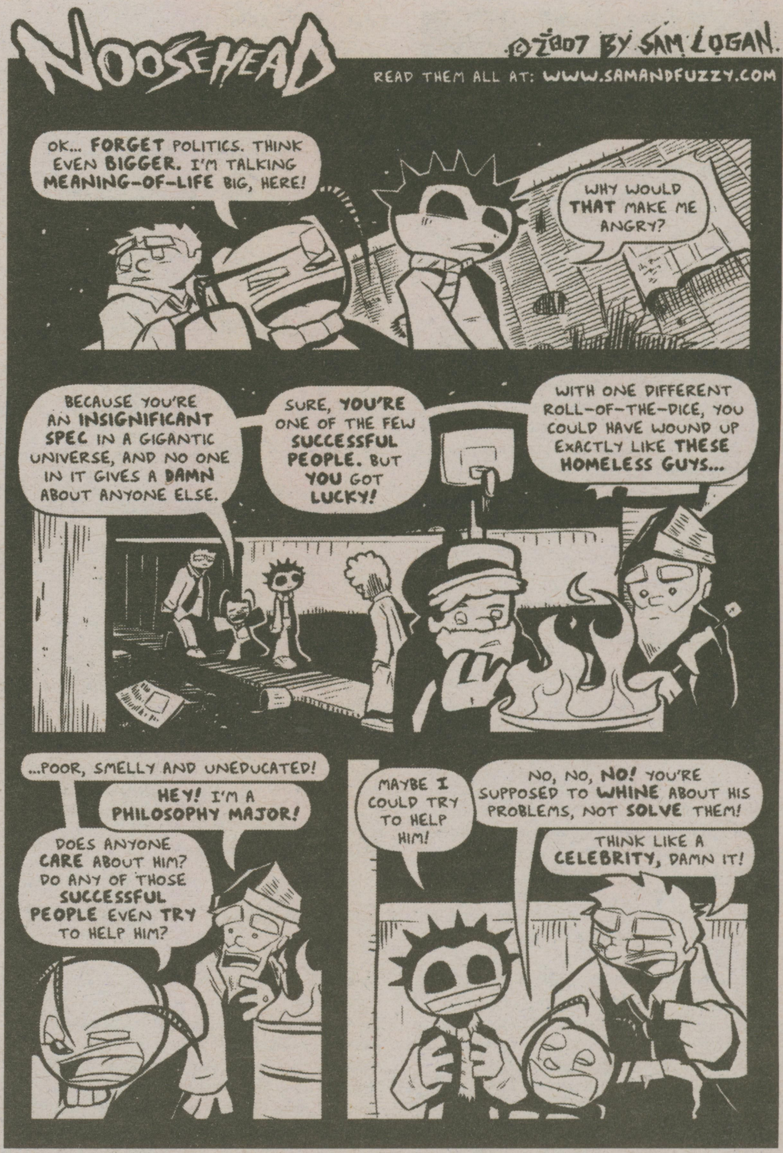
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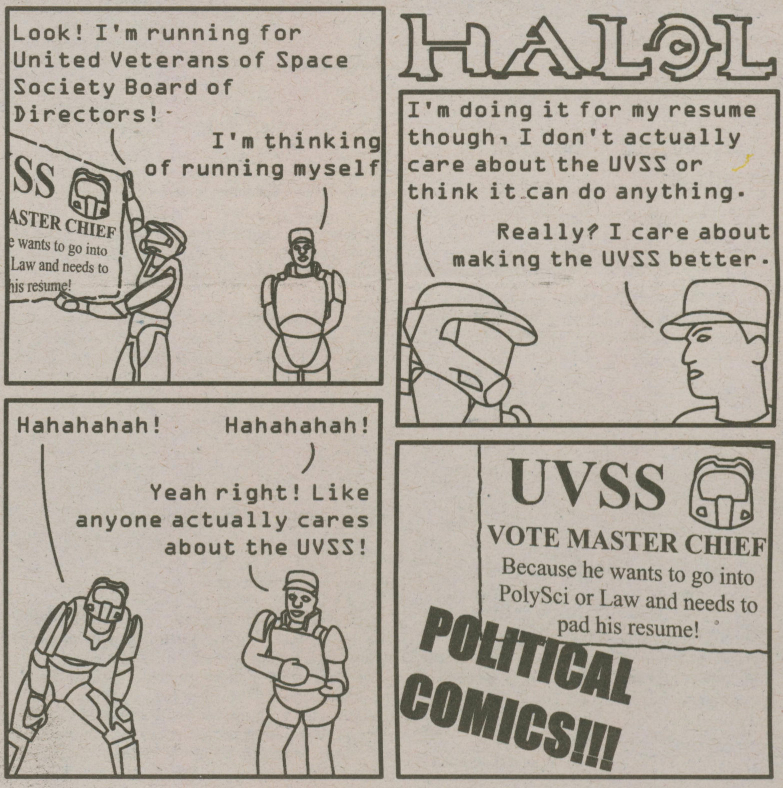
READ THEM ALL AT: WWW.SAMANDFUZZY.COM
OK... FORGET POLITICS. THINK EVEN BIGGER. I'M TALKING MEANING-OF-LIFE BIG, HERE!
WHY WOULD THAT MAKE ME ANGRY?
BECAUSE YOU'RE AN INSIGNIFICANT SPEC IN A GIGANTIC UNIVERSE, AND NO ONE IN IT GIVES A DAMN ABOUT ANYONE ELSE.
SURE, YOU'RE ONE OF THE FEW SUCCESSFUL PEOPLE. BUT YOU GOT LUCKY!
WITH ONE DIFFERENT ROLL-OF-THE-DICE, YOU COULD HAVE WOUND UP EXACTLY LIKE THESE HOMELESS GUYS...
...POOR, SMELLY AND UNEDUCATED!
HEY! I'M A PHILOSOPHY MAJOR!
DOES ANYONE CARE ABOUT HIM? DO ANY OF THOSE SUCCESSFUL PEOPLE EVEN TRY TO HELP HIM?
MAYBE I COULD TRY TO HELP HIM!
NO, NO, NO! YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO WHINE ABOUT HIS PROBLEMS, NOT SOLVE THEM!
THINK LIKE A CELEBRITY, DAMN IT!


HALOL
Look! I'm running for United Veterans of Space Society Board of Directors!
I'm thinking of running myself
SS
ASTER CHIEF
e wants to go into
Law and needs to
his resume!
I'm doing it for my resume though, I don't actually care about the UVSS or think it can do anything.
Really? I care about making the UVSS better.
Hahahahah!
Hahahahah!
Yeah right! Like anyone actually cares about the UVSS!
UVSS
VOTE MASTER CHIEF
Because he wants to go into PolySci or Law and needs to pad his resume!
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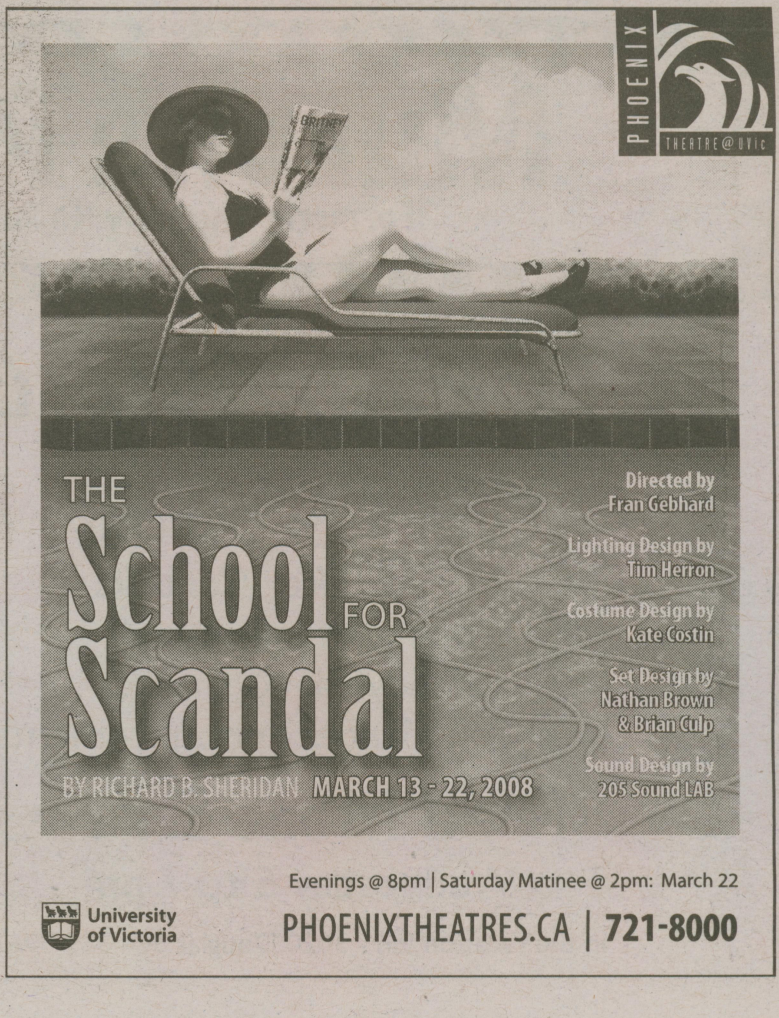
PHOENIX THEATRE@UVic

THE School FOR Scandal
BY RICHARD B. SHERIDAN MARCH 13 - 22, 2008

Directed by Fran Gebhard
Lighting Design by Tim Herron
Costume Design by Kate Costin
Set Design by Nathan Brown & Brian Culp
Sound Design by 205 Sound LAB

Evenings @ 8pm | Saturday Matinee @ 2pm: March 22
University of Victoria
PHOENIXTHEATRES.CA | 721-8000

ON CAMPUS

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

Through the Looking Glass: Host-Parasite Interactions meet the Red Queen

7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Elliott Building, 167

Sexual reproduction is one of the major unresolved problems in evolutionary biology. This talk will focus on the Red Queen Hypothesis (the term comes from Lewis Carroll's *Through the Looking Glass*), which argues that evolutionary interactions with parasites are the primary force for producing genetic diversity.

Fee: Free
Info: 721-7091
biology@uvic.ca

A Distinguished Professor Lecture: On Global Citizenship

7:30 - 9 p.m.

David F. Strong Building, C103

By Dr. James Tully, Department of Political Science

Global Citizenship is one of the most important yet perplexing movements of our time. Some see it as the greatest superpower in the world - a new form of network democracy that will transform 21st century politics. Others say it is the continuation of western imperialism by new means; where co-opted NGOS have replaced the missionaries of earlier imperialism. Still others contend it is nothing new and can be understood in the familiar categories of state-centred citizenship and internationalism. Professor Tully takes us through the conflicting interpretations of global citizenship and discusses new trends in practice and academic research.

Fee: Free
Info: Jittiya Dearden
721-7013
jdearden@uvic.ca

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

Flight from Death: The Quest for Immortality

7 p.m.
HSD, A240.

Documentary screening with discussion led by producers Patrick Shen and Greg Bennick to follow. A thought-provoking and entertaining evening of exploration of death and its meaning in our lives!

Fee: Free
Info: bakerpm@uvic.ca

2008 Victoria Juggling Festival

10:30 p.m.
Student Union Building, Felicitas

The UVic Juggling Club is hosting the 2008 Victoria Juggling Festival, featuring jugglers from all over the world! This is a fun and inspiring hands-on event for all ages and skill levels. There will be juggling, acrobalance, poi, and contact juggling workshops, as well as games, vendors and shows Friday. No experience necessary.

Fee: Free
Info: juggling@uvss.uvic.ca

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

UVic Jazz Orchestra

8 - 10 p.m.

University Centre, Farquhar Auditorium

Anita Bonkowski directs the UVic Jazz Orchestra. Special guest artist, David Flello, trumpet.

Fee: $15 & $11
Info: 721-7904
michalsk@uvic.ca

UVic Surplus Office Furniture Sale:

10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday & Sunday
UVic Parking Lot #2, behind Campus Security
Finnerty & McKenzie (enter from Gabriola Road)

Viewing: Friday March 14, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Terms: Cash and Carry
Visa/MC/Debit also accepted
No delivery service available
As is/where is
No Returns No Refunds

Pricing: Desks $30-$60
Tables $10-$50
Chairs $10-$20
Filing Cabinets $30-$60
Shelving $20-$60
Miscellaneous items

Info: Stephen Wylie
472-5148
swylie@uvic.ca

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

Cool Strategies for a Warming World

10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Fraser Building, Student Lounge

Join us for an interactive theatre workshop to explore strategies and solutions for environmental issues in our own lives. This workshop requires no acting experience, and is one of several events taking place globally as part of the Joker's International Day of Action on Global Warming.

Fee: Free
Info: elcexec@uvic.ca

MONDAY, MARCH 17

The Canadian Role in Afghanistan

1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

Student Union Building, Cinecenta

Speaker: Mr. Laurie Hawn, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of National Defense

Mr. Hawn served in the Royal Canadian Air Force and Canadian Forces for over 30 years before becoming involved in politics. He was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Defense, Peter MacKay, on October 10, 2007. He spent this Christmas with the Canadian troops in Afghanistan.

Fee: Free
Info: natasha@uvic.ca b

Treehugging Competition

All Day

Near the Elliot Building

Come by our table by Elliott 10-4 Tues & Wed and we'll take your pic. Pictures will be available for judging from 10-2 on Thurs March 19th. Lots of Prizes: Wilderness posters, cards, Paul George's book "Big Trees Not Big Stumps," gift certificates for good food, Cinecenta passes & more. If you want to take your own picture, feel free and bring it to us at the table by closing on Wednesday. Hosted by Uvic Wildernes Club.

TUESDAY, MARCH 18

The Truth Compassion Tolerance Arts Exhibition

March 18 and 19, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Student Union Building, Michele Pujol Room

This painting exhibit by accomplished artists depicts the suppression in China of the gentle meditation practice Falun Gong, portraying the peaceful defiance of those who practice it and the spiritual depths of their journey.

"Beyond the Red Wall," a November, 2007, CBC documentary by Peter Rowe, will be shown during the exhibit.

Fee: Free
Info: www.falunart.org

"Sprung" Fine Arts Event

5 - 11 p.m.
Visual Arts Building

Live music, theatre, exhibit & bar!
Come and be entertained & stimulated!!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

UVic Pride Semi Annual General Meeting

5:30 p.m.
Student Union Building, 100B

Please come out because we will be having elections and we'll be tabling constitutional ammendments. Elections are open to everybody so please have a look at our website http://www.uvss.uvic.ca/pride/ where you will find descriptions of all positions up for election. Hope to see you there!

Fee: Free

LIVE CONCERTS

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

Canoe Club Sessions Mike Hann, Alex Nichols, Jeff Scotney and Mike Roma @ Canoe

9 - 11:30 p.m., doors at 8 p.m.

Hosted by Mr. Mike Hann, featuring several young suitors and a room full of Victoria's finest.

Fee: Free

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

Conversation, Lights Below, quick, said the bird, Jeffrey K @ Lucky Bar

9 p.m.

(No Minors) Vancouver's Lights Below join Vic's own Conversation, with special guests Quick, Said the bird and Jeffrey K.

Fee: $8

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

Carrie Hassler & Hard Rain @ St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

4:30 p.m. & 8 p.m., doors at 4 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

The Mountain Jubilee Show presents: "2007 IBMA Showcase Artist." Direct from Pikeville, Tennessee USA! Carrie Hassler & Hard Rain @ St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (All Ages). Matinee: $10. Feature Presentation: $15 at the door. VIP Reserved Seats $20 [Feature Presentation only].

Fee: $10 - $20

The Standup of Western Canda's Todd Allan @ Murph's Pub,

9 p.m.

Originally brought up in Victoria where he graduated from Oak Bay High, he is now a National Headliner based out of Victoria. Reservations at 389-9962,

Fee: Free

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

Hot 6 Pc. Jazz Every Sunday Afternoon! CanUS Hot Jazz Band @ Hermann's Jazz Club

4:30 - 7:30 p.m., doors open at 4 p.m.

Tickets: Hermann's, 753 View St. 388-9166 (All Ages)

For 25 years, fans and visitors have kept the New Orleans jazz flame burning at Hermann's. Dance floor, good food, and the great sounds of CanUS Hot Jazz Band, which has appeared all over North America, including The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

Fee: $10

VOLUNTEER LISTINGS

Looking for new growth?
Open your heart & volunteer with us.
NEED Crisis and Information Line
Training starts April 19th
Next Information Session
Monday, March 17th at 6:30pm
UVic SUB Room 110B
Call 386-6329 or see web for details
www.needcrisis.bc.ca

Do you have what it takes be a St. John Ambulance Volunteer? We are now recruiting for the First Aid Brigade and the Therapy Dog program.

Our Volunteer First Aid Brigade is called out to hundreds of events in the Greater Victoria region every year. Our dedicated members come from all walks of life. What makes them unique is their advanced first aid training and community spirit. If you want to find out more about joining this dynamic group of volunteers call Laurie at 388-5505 X106 at St. John Ambulance.

Therapy Dogs: Do you have a cheerful personality and is your dog well mannered? St. John Ambulance is recruiting dogs and their owners for our Therapy Dog volunteer program.

To find our more call Laurie at St. John Ambulance at 388-5505 X106.

Get your Wheels In Motion! A great opportunity to learn about special event planning and fundraising from experienced staff and volunteers, the Victoria Rick Hansen Wheels In Motion committee is looking for additional committee members to help organize this exciting annual event held Sunday, June 8th. Thousands of people will attend this fun, family-friendly event that brings people of all ages and abilities together to help build awareness about spinal cord injuries and raise funds for community-based quality of life projects. Contact Shelley to get involved by calling 1-866-609-4335 ext, 6334.

Victoria Riding for the Disabled Association provides a therapeutic riding program to children and adults with disabilities. If you enjoy horses and people, this would appeal to you. No experience is necessar (we provide training), however, volunteers must be 16 years of age or older. Classes are held Tuesday – Thursday mornings and afternoons. Next riding session begins the first week of April.

Please contact us for orientation/training times.

The Victoria Evening Newcomers Club FOR WOMEN meets on the third Tuesday of each month for dinner and a guest speaker. We welcome all women who are new to the Victoria area.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 18, 2007
Time: 6:30 pm Meet & Greet, Dinner at 7 p.m.
Admission: $33 ($30 for club members)
Registration Deadline: March 13th
December Location: Milos Restaurant, 716 Burdett

Call Peggy at 744-1823 for more information.

CLASSIFIEDS

The Old Winery Self Storage
Clean, secure, indoor lockers.
Open 7 days a week.
3952 Quadra Street
Behind the Keg. 727-2311

FEMALE STUDENT: $100 per night to help mom with a disabled child, just sleeping overnight in the guest room. Call Leah. 382-2433.

Roof and Gutter Inspection, repairs, re-roofing, power washing, 380-5685.

Kirstin Martin: Aveda Hair Stylist and Waxing Specialist (primarily Brazillian) now offering all services discounted from her home in Fernwood. Call 294-0822 to book.

To submit an event, please email: promo@martlet.ca by Monday

Murph's Pub
(Formerly The Tally Ho Pub)

Live Stand-Up Comedy

Every Saturday
9 pm or after Canucks
For more info e-mail
comedyfeast@shaw.ca
or check Martlet announcements

Free Meat Draw
Wednesday 5 to 7 pm

In the Vacation Inn - 3020 Douglas St. - 389-9962

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Jill Madison
B.A., M.A(dventure)

With over 2,300 graduate students, Memorial University of Newfoundland attracts adventure-seeking and inquisitive students from many walks of life. Memorial University graduate students become future scholars and professionals, and our students benefit from attractive funding packages and some of the lowest graduate tuition rates in Canada. If you wish to carry out innovative research in a unique setting, begin the adventure by contacting us.

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